What Are You Going To Do Now, Murphy?

13e N.Y.

By STANLEY ROSS

John Harvey Brown was the victim of an unprovoked, cruel attack by Patrolmen John Tyson and Jerry E. Hogan. It was as terrifying an attack as stains the long history of New York City Police brutality.

Now the New York Supreme Court, after three days of testimony, and with the unanimous decision of an all-white jury, presided over by a white judge, has ordered the city and the two policemen to pay $60,000 damages.

Meanwhile today, and during the 15 months since John Harvey Brown, father of four small children, was beaten and crippled for life, these two public servants have been on the police force. They still carry the same guns and the same nightsticks with which they bludgeoned their victim to the doorway of death. They are on duty today.

You had better do something about this, Commissioner Thomas Murphy, and do it quick.

You have procrastinated long enough in the Derrick killing, swishing your moustaches with double-talk about needing "proof" and "investigation."

In the John Harvey Brown case, Mr. Murphy, the New York Supreme Court has heard three days of brutal proof of how these two drunken sadists ruined the life of a young, useful, loyal citizen. Or do you need more proof?

Take warning, Thomas Murphy; better do something, and do it now, or blood may run in the streets.

And you will learn, Thomas Murphy, that the blood of white policemen is as free-flowing, and as red, as the blood of the John Derricks and the John Harvey Browns.

Cab Driver Beaten by Cop Gets $58,000

3 Police Brutality Cases, Bus Negligence Cost NYC $270,000

NEW YORK—James Buck Harris, a Bronx cab driver, was awarded $58,000 last Thursday by a jury of 10 men and two women for a beating he received on Dec. 4, 1948, at the hands of a colored policeman.

The award handed down in Supreme Court by Justice Sam Gould was the fourth largest judgment award against the city recently—two others for police brutality against colored people totaling over $110,000 and another for $100,000 to a Brooklyn matron injured on a city-owned bus.

Mr. Harris' judgment came as the result of a $100000 suit which he brought against the city and policeman Harold Tate.

DA Whitewashed Charge

The District Attorney's office had given an official whitewash to the charges he made against the officer.

Mr. Harris charged that while operating his cab a pedestrian, who later turned out to be officer Tate walked into the side of his vehicle.

Beaten in Hospital

The policeman was knocked down by the impact and allegedly ordered Mr. Harris to proceed to Sydenham Hospital where he was first examined.

Then Mr. Harris said the officer ordered him into a small room reserved for policemen and proceeded to beat him with the assistance of another policeman.

After the beating Harris was admitted to the hospital for treatment.

Financial Editor Jury Chief

He brought charges against Officer Tate but the District Attorney did not find them sufficient to take to a grand jury. He then filed suit in Supreme Court in 1949.

The jury was headed by Norman Stibler financial editor of the New York Herald Tribune. Harris who lives at 486 E. 165th St. was represented by Harry Zeiltman.

Other Cases

In the two earlier cases of police brutality Harvey Brown who was crippled permanently by two Manhattan officers while en route to work was awarded $60,000 and Mrs. Lottie Newton of Brooklyn a widow received $52,281 because her husband had been killed on Memorial Day 1949 by an off-duty policeman.

The $100,000 award went to Mrs. Camella Greenidge, 40, of 361 Hancock St. Brooklyn who suffered a compression of the spine and fractured vertebra when the bus she was riding last June 20 stopped suddenly throwing her to the floor.

Judge Charles Colden of the Brooklyn Supreme Court announced the award after an all-male jury returned an 11 to 1 verdict in favor of Mrs. Greenidge who had requested $500,000 damages.

Free Police Who Killed Augusta Vet

13e N.Y.

NEW YORK — Tension over police brutality in Harlem mounted last week as a grand jury cleared two patrolmen in the fatal shooting of an Augusta, Ga. veteran.

Two "near riot" incidents involving other New York policemen served to heighten the unrest which hangs dangerously over this city's Negro ghetto.

Patrolmen Basil Minakakis and Louis Palumbo were freed of charges that they shot John Derrick, 24, "for no cause" as he was enroute to his home in Augusta.

The jury found no evidence that the pair took $1500 in mustering out pay from him.

The policemen claimed Derrick drew a gun on them while resisting arrest. Eye witnesses, however, said Derrick's hands were in the air when he was shot down. Following strong protests from Harlem leaders immediately after the fatal shooting, the two policemen were transferred from their Harlem beats.

Another "ugly incident" was prevented last week when the coolness of a mounted policeman subdued an angry crowd which gathered after an off-duty officer, allegedly intoxicated, shot at Donald West, 12, and David Pope, 13, because they laughed at him.

In still another incident, Johnny Thomas, member of the Rockets dancing trio, and his woman companion were beaten by a policeman outside the Theresa hotel. Only the intervention of Police Inspector Thomas Boyland prevented a major race disturbance.

3rd Cop Brutality Victm Awarded $58,500 By Jury

Ex-cab driver James (Buck) Harris, victim of a beating by a Harlem cop, will learn this week whether Supreme Court Justice Gold thought a $58,500 decision returned by a jury last Thursday was excessive. Justice Gold reserved his decision for further consideration.

Harris, it was shown in court last week, suffered permanent disability and reactivation of an arrested case of tuberculosis as a result of a working over he got from Ptl. Herold Tate of the 32nd Precinct. Both Davis and the cop are Negroes.

He's Happier Than When Beaten

Foto by Campbell

JURY BRINGS $58,500 VERDICT . . . James B. Harris, who sued the City of New York and Ptlmn. Harold Tate for $100,000 in a cop brutality case, poses happily with his wife, Mrs. Alma Harris, at his left, and three children, Deloris, 9; Dorothy, 4, and James Paul, 6. Mr. Harris, although awarded the case by the jury has not received his money yet. Judge reserved decision on the basis of the amount awarded being "excessive".

'Tate, he spent six to eight months in tubercular wards. X-rays produced in court proved valuable in convincing the jury Harris' health was impaired by the beating.

Tate, according to Capt. Louis Greiter of the 32nd Precinct, is still on duty. He said no instructions on further police department action, have been received from headquarters.

According to Corporation Counsel Abraham Silvers, the most damaging bit of evidence to the city's case came from Tate himself. He admitted he had malice and animosity toward the cab driver at the time of the beating. The jury was noticeably convinced on this testimony.

Sharp Memory

Harris' sharp memory enabled him to pick out defense and witnesses whom he had not seen in more than two years. This also impressed the jury, said Silvers.

While the Harris-Tate case was whitewashed in 1949 at a district attorney's hearing, Silvers said the finding of the jury is prima facie evidence that the cop was abusive, deliberately assaulted Harris and was negligent in his duty.

The case is the third within a two-month span where the City of New York stands to pay out $168,000 for police brutality and unnecessary roughness.

Last month John Harvey Brown, 330 Gates Ave., Brooklyn, was awarded a $60,000 judgment for the beating he got from Patrolmen John Tyson and Jerry Hogan on the morning of Sept. 2, 1949. He suffered paralysis of the head, injured ear drums and must wear a metal plate in his head for the rest of his life. An all-white jury returned the verdict in Brown's favor with Justice Brietel on the bench. The cops were alleged to have been intoxicated.

Received $50,281

Also last month, Mrs. Lottie Newton, 699 Jefferson Ave., Brooklyn, was awarded $50,281 because Ptl. David Mullen while off duty shot and killed her husband, Herman, 22, during an altercation in Brooklyn. A fight between Mullen and Newton started when Newton objected to the cop's reckless driving.

Harris, who lives with his wife and three children at 486 E. 165th St., The Bronx, claims his earning ability is permanently impaired. After the beating by Ptl.

MAYOR ORDERS THEIR TRANSFER:

Harlem Threats Bring on 'Killer Cops' Ouster

By JAMES L. HICKS

NEW YORK—The NAACP said last Friday it will continue to press for the prosecution of two white policemen charged with the shooting of a colored veteran in Harlem on December 7.

The statement came from Lindsay White, president of the local branch here, after Mayor Vincent Impellitteri had yielded to a strong demand from the NAACP that he remove the two policemen from their beats in Harlem or be held responsible for the consequences.

The Mayor was given 24 hours to do this.

In complying with the strong request from an aroused community the Mayor wrote the Rev. James H. Robinson, chairman of the NAACP citizens' committee, as follows:

"I have asked Police Commissioner Murphy to transfer Patrolmen Basil Minakotis and Louis Palumbo fom the 28th Precinct in Harlem.

"This suggested transfer is not made in any way to influence the District Attorney or the grand jury investigating the case in which these patrolmen are involved, nor is it intended in any fashion to be construed as a prejudgment of the case.

Eager to Relieve Tension

Rather it is being done to ease any mounting tension growing out of the incident in question.

"I firmly believe the citizens of Harlem have complete faith in our democratic processes and have full confidence in the fair and impartial investigations now being made by the municipal authorities."

Replying to this letter from the Mayor the Rev. Mr. Robinson said the NAACP and the people of Harlem appreciated "very much" the transfer and agreed that the transfer was "irrevalent" to the final determination of the case.

He said, however, that the transfer removed a "very real threat to the lives and welfare of the community."

Some Harlem citizens had vowed to shoot down the two policemen and following a mass rally last Friday night [illegible] was formed in the community.

Had Hands Up When Shot

At that meeting, eyewitnesses testified that the veteran, John Derrick, was shot down by the policemen while he had his hands raised in compliance with their orders. Police charge that he attempted to pull a gun later found near his body. Witnesses say the police "planted" the gun on him.

Mr. Robinson also pressed the Mayor for a meeting with him and said the incident "had caused a serious loss of confidence in the police department on the part of Harlem citizens" and that at the meeting this group would suggest ways in which this situation could be corrected.

Mr. White made it plain that the NAACP was not going along at this time with the suggestion that a deputy police commissioner and a police captain, both colored, be appointed in Harlem as a result of the shooting.

This suggestion came from a group headed by Congressman Adam Powel. Mr. White pointed out that the NAACP would be happy over such appointments but that he did not like the idea of "hanging" them on the Derrick case.

He said he would allow no politics to enter the case but that the organization was simply pressing for justice for Harlem citizens from the police department.

Impossible Anyway

A check of the records shows that Mr. Powell's request could not be immediately complied with even if city officials were so inclined.

There are no colored police captains in New York City. Some colored police lieutenants took the captain's exam and failed. In order to be a police captain, one must first pass the examination.

In addition, in order to be appointed a deputy commissioner, one must have first served as a police [illegible]

CITY OF NEW YORK AND TWO BRUTAL POLICEMEN SUED FOR DAMAGES BY FACTORY WORKER

Says Two Drunk Officers Crushed His Skull And Impaired His Hearing Resulting in Paralysis

DEFENDANT OFFICERS WERE OFF DUTY DURING MELEE

NEW YORK — (ANP) — Two white policemen and the city of New York were named as defendants in a $100,000 civil suit, opening in state supreme court here Friday, by John Harvey Brown, 31-year-old factory worker who charged [illegible] officers attacked and brutally beat him on Sept. 2, 1949.

Brown charges he suffered a fractured skull as a result of the beating, that he sustained a permanent paralysis of the left side of his face, defected hearing in the left ear and must wear a metal plate in his head for the rest of his life. The two officers, Patrolmen John Tyson and Jerry E. Hogan were off-duty and were coming out of a tavern where they had been drinking.

The victim said he was on his way to work early that morning and passed by Tony's Bar and Grill. He saw two men coming out, talking and laughing. They told him to "get your hands up." As he raised his hands, one walked in front and pointed a gun at him.

"They made me clean out my pockets and made me take out 50 cents in change and lay it on the street. The other fellow got in back of me and the one in front said, 'let him run and I will plug him.'

"The one in back said, 'I'll let the SOB have it while he runs.' 'No, let the SOB have it right here.'

"The one in front then hit me across the head with a gun."

Brown woke up four days later in Bellevue hospital. Supporting witnesses said they saw the policemen standing over Brown, who was sprawled on the ground with blood streaming out of his head. One witness said he followed the two officers and saw them drag the unconscious man a distance of four blocks to the police station where he was booked on a disorderly conduct charge.

Both officers denied they were drunk or that the attack was unprovoked. They said they had been drinking, but claimed they heard two women screaming and saw Brown running out of an enclosure and crossing the street. They said that as they tried to stop him, Brown came up with a knife.

Records show that Brown was arrested, a half hour later [illegible] to Beekman hospital and [illegible] transferred to Bellevue. He was discharged 17 days later and brought into magistrates court. The disorderly conduct charges were dismissed.

[illegible] his way to work at his job at the Liberty Paper Box Company about 4 a.m. when the two patrolmen, drunk and in civilian clothes, came out of the tavern with drawn guns, told him to stick up his hands, emptied his pockets and then argued about what they were to do with him.

Struck Without Reason

Suddenly, he said, Patrolman Tyson hit him across the head with a gun butt and he recovered consciousness four days later at Bellevue Hospital. Doctors lifted a steel plate over the hole made in his head and he was released 17 days later, it was revealed.

On his release, he was arrested and taken before Magistrate's Court on a charge of disorderly conduct which was dismissed by Magistrate William Andrews.

Knife Pulling Gag Denied

Officers Hogan and Tyson testified that they came out of their car near the scene of the incident, Franklin Square, and heard two women screaming.

[illegible] Miller's motion to set aside the jury verdict.

The officers charged with having beaten the plaintiff so badly that he will permanently have a paralyzed left cheek, defective hearing in his left ear and a metal plate in his head are Patrolmen John Tyson and Jerry E. Hogan of the 4th Precinct. Both are in their 20's.

Taxpayers Support Brutality

The city has 30 days within which to file an appeal in a higher court and was expected to file an immediate appeal this week. No departmental action has been taken against the two officers, although they can be suspended pending the appeal.

With the jury making all of the defendants in the case liable, the city must pay the $60,000 check and also continue to pay the policemen's salaries, since they have never lost a day's pay since the incident.

Brown testified that he was ar[illegible]

GOPS NOT REPRIMANDED:

Police Brutality Victim Wins $60,000 Award

BROOKLYN — John Harvey Brown, 31-year-old factory worker who was crippled for life as the result of an unprovoked beating by two off-duty [illegible] policemen, Sept. 2, 1949, while he was on his way to work, was awarded $60,000 on his $100,000 suit against the City of New York and the two officers, [illegible] Supreme Court Justice Charles D. Brieant, who also denied Corporation Counsel William

they said they saw Brown running up the street; they ordered him to halt and merely hit him with a fist when he "attempted to pull a knife" on Horan.

The jury disbelieved their story, after their testimony was refuted by an assistant district attorney and several eye-witnesses.

Brown, unable to return to his $50-per-week job since the incident, has been receiving assistance for his family from the Welfare Department.

Wants To Reopen Brutality Cases

City Councilman [illegible] Brown Friday took the first step in what may mean official action from higher up to reopen the cases against New York police who killed Herman Newton and John Derrick and brutally beat John Harvey Brown.

Brown introduced a resolution before City Council asking that recommendations be made to proper authorities for the immediate dismissal of Patrolmen David Mullen, Basil Minakakis, Louis Palumbo, Jerry Hogan and John Tyson.

Mullen shot and killed Herman Newton on a busy Brooklyn street corner on Memorial Day, 1949. Minakakis and Palumbo pumped four bullets into John Derrick in lower Harlem, Dec. 7, 1950, and Hogan and Tyson assaulted John Harvey Brown in midtown Manhattan late in 1949. Brown is permanently disabled, but later got a court judgment of $60,000.

Still Active

All cops involved in these cases are still on active duty.

Brown's resolution also asked the Council to appoint a special committee to inquire into the circumstances and causes of the situation, to conduct hearings, to subpoena and hear witnesses, and to formulate and recommend proposals for remedies.

While Councilman Brown attempts to prod the city administration into action, the New York branch of the NAACP is feeling out Gov. Dewey in an effort to get him to intervene in these latest and most flagrant police brutality cases.

Applying pressure from another direction, the NAACP and Cong. Adam C. Powell last week asked Assistant U. S. Attorney General George C. Triedman to investigate the unprovoked slaying of John Derrick and, if necessary, turn it over to the FBI. Triedman promised to open an investigation immediately, it was reported.

The NAACP furnished Triedman with affidavits from eye witnesses and the statement made by New York County District Attorney Frank Hogan after a grand jury refused to indict Minakakis and Palumbo. Triedman is chief of the civil liberties division of the Department of Justice.

Mystery Surrounding Alleged Cop-Beating

By CARL LAWRENCE

Reports of a fantastic case of police brutality, involving an off-duty Negro cop who reportedly was severely beaten by three white policemen that medical attention was required, came to light this week despite efforts to keep it secret.

The alleged victim, Patrolman James Barber of the 42nd Precinct in the Bronx, was also suspended. However, he was restored to duty last Friday with the Police Trial Board's decision still pending.

Until then, the young cop had been haunted by the fear that his job might be lost because his accused attackers were threatening to "go all the way" if the incident resulted in charges being placed against them. The case has been so hush-hush that the identity of the white cops is still being withheld by officials of the E. 104th St. station where the brawl is said to have occurred.

It was said, nevertheless, that a Police Surgeon testified during Barber's hearing that the policeman was intoxicated when he was examined March 16 when the alleged attack happened. The trial took place last Thursday.

According to this newspaper's informants, Patrolman Barber got into an argument with the white cops over a minor infraction of traffic rules. At the time, his automobile was improperly parked in East 110th St., and when the 23rd Precinct patrolmen asked why, the Negro officer "gave them some lip."

One informant in a position to know, claimed that one of the white cops told Barber:

"You n - - - r cops get away with everything. We're going to take you in."

Patrolman Barber is reported to have expressed resentment in language so "salty" that one of the cops went beserk with anger and reached for his gun. The Negro cop, who claimed later that he did not know the men were policemen, pulled his first, however, and for a moment it appeared as if someone was about to shoot.

But another white officer is said to have grabbed Barber's revolver and announced that he was under arrest.

When they appeared at the station house to presumably book the Negro cop, he reportedly became angry again and became so hysterical that a desk officer suggested that Barber accompany the white cops in the rear for a little rest.

Meanwhile, an alarm went out for the police surgeon, but before his arrival, it was learned, Barber was battered into helplessness by two of the men who had brought him to the precinct.

They allegedly mauled his head and face with their fists, banged him about the body with blackjacks and dared him to fight back. Then, they brought Barber out and charged him with being drunk.

Police Commissioner Murphy reportedly ordered his suspension almost immediately. Powerful friends of Barber's went to work just as quick and last Friday's unexpected development followed.

None of the record-keeping Police Department figures assigned to the Harlem area would admit knowing anything about the case. One rookie revealed that he had heard about it, via the grapevine, but he insisted that he was not supposed to discuss it.

"There's an unwritten vow on this thing," he explained, "and I'm not going to be the fall guy. But what you told me is about the way I heard it."

New Inquiry Set For Patrolman Who Shot Negro

Officer Cleared in Death, Leibowitz Permits Case to Go to 2d Grand Jury

Judge Samuel S. Leibowitz of Kings County Court granted a motion yesterday giving Assistant Attorney William Siegel permission to resubmit to another Brooklyn grand jury evidence in the fatal shooting by a policeman of a Negro hit-and-run driver in the East New York section of Brooklyn on the night of May 26. The incident nearly caused a race riot at the time.

On Thursday a Brooklyn grand jury heard evidence but failed to take action against Patrolman Samuel Applebaum, who shot Henry Fields jr., twenty-six, of 129 Osborn St., Brooklyn, as he was trying to escape the scene of the accident. The prosecutor said afterward that the grand jury had "acted capriciously and contrary to law," and that its failure to act was a "gross miscarriage of justice."

After Fields' car hit another, he kept on going and got a flat tire a few blocks away. The policeman, who was pursuing him, saw Fields jump from the car and run away on foot. He fired, and the bullet is believed to have ricocheted from the car and to have struck Fields.

In arguing that the policeman should not have fired his revolver in this case, Mr. Siegel made the following points:

At the worst, Fields had committed only a misdemeanor. He was drunk. His back was to the policeman when he was struck down. The policeman had a good knowledge of firearms, both from his police experience and his war-time military service overseas. On a previous occasion he had withheld his fire when he had disarmed a man brandishing a rifle. He was left-handed, and he fired at the left side of the car, on which side Fields was sitting.

"In this instance, the grand jury has wrongfully used its independence," Mr. Siegel told the court. "Whatever reason it had, it was not a good enough reason for a grand jury to close its eyes to the law, and I can't conceive of a body of citizens who have heard evidence in this case failing to find an indictment."

The court then directed the case to be submitted to the other grand jury.

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New York

Harlem Stirred By Police Beating Of Judge's Kin

NEW YORK — William M. Delaney, 28, a well-known attorney nephew of Judge Hubert T. Delaney, and the son of Lucius L. Delaney, allegedly was brutally beaten by three patrolmen of the 32nd Police Precinct Friday morning, May 25, at about 3:30 a. m.

Reports state that the policemen involved were Walter McIver, Conney and McCormick.

It is claimed that Mr. Delaney, his wife and a friend had just returned home and were sitting on the stoop of their residence when Patrolman McIver ordered them off the stoop.

It is charged that when Mr. Delaney informed McIver that this was his residence and wanted to know the reason for the patrolman ordering him into the house, the officer used abusive language and when Mr. Delaney asked for his badge number, the patrolman then struck Mr. Delaney on the head with his nightstick and proceeded to brutally beat him.

IT IS ALLEGED that the policemen tied up Mr. Delaney after knocking him unconscious and one of the other officers kicked the victim in the face while he lay unconscious on the sidewalk.

According to reports, the patrolmen then removed Mr. Delaney to Harlem Hospital where they attempted to hold him uncommunicado until Judge Delaney arrived and insisted upon seeing his nephew.

Mr. Delaney, after being X-rayed was taken to the 32nd Precinct and charged with "felonious assault" and released in the custody of his father.

* * *

THE NEW YORK BRANCH of the NAACP is co-operating with the father in handling this case.

Commenting on the case, Judge Delaney of the Domestic Relations Court said:

"I have no desire to condemn the entire Police Department because many of the policemen assigned to Harlem consider that they have a God-given right in a poor community to search persons and homes with out a warrant and to keep the peace with the night stick and the black jack whenever a Negro attempts to question their right to restrict the individual's freedom of movement and the elemental freedoms that are enjoyed by the citizens of other communities.

* * *

"POLICE BRUTALITY has been the mode in Harlem for years. The nurses and staff at Harlem Hospital see the bloody results of police brutality daily, and the judges of our inferior courts see it all too frequently. I expect no police officer to wait until he is about to be killed to protect himself, but police officers should not unnecessarily provoke controversies with our citizens, nor should they use the night stick and the black jack when ordinary common courtesy on their part would keep the peace. Such actions on their part lead to riots, and neither the people of our community, nor the people of our city can afford or countenance rioting.

"Regardless of the merits of this particular case, no human being should be beaten over the head with a black jack, and kicked in the face when he has been beaten into unconsciousness by the police as was my nephew. If this can happen to my nephew, it can happen to yours.

"Nothing was done by the city authorities in the case of the veteran, John Derrick, who was shot and killed by the police in Harlem. No policeman in Harlem has been convicted for police brutality or murder in over 30 years of many unnecessary killings, and hundreds of cases of police brutality, which have continued unabated for years in our community, despite the protests of our citizens and of the Negro press. If we of Harlem really cherish our freedom, we will realize that it is time for all of the people of Harlem to let the Police Department and the city fathers know that we shall not continue to stand for police brutality in the future as we have in the past, and that we shall fight against police brutality in Harlem until we enjoy the same treatment by law enforcement agencies as are enjoyed by the citizens of other sections of our city."

NAACP TO PRESS FOR JUSTICE IN BROOKLYN POLICE KILLING

Brooklyn,N.Y.-An over-flow crowd holding a mass meeting on May 28 at the Empire Manor in Brooklyn to protest the killing of Henry Fields by a bullet from the policeman's gun voted overwhelmingly to authorize the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People to press the case through judicial processes and to direct all legal and other action connected with the case. The action was taken after Herbert Hill,NAACP assistant field secretary,warned the crowd against permitting the case to be utilized by any political groups for "purposes of political agitation." Mr.Hill told the audience that the NAACP opposes violence and simless hysteria and referred to the anti-Communist resolution adopted by the delegates of the association's forty-first annual convention in Boston last June. The three purposes of the NAACP in the case will be (1) to have the policeman who shot Fields suspended from active duty,pending investigation; (2) to have the District Attorney(s office present the case to a grand jury and secure an indictment; and (3) to organize community support under the auspices of the Brooklyn branch of the NAACP, which called this week(s meeting.

Daily World
Tues. 6-5-51
Atlanta,Ga.

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New York

Demands Mayor Probe Brutality

New York's mayor got a demand last week that he start a survey aimed at ending police brutality in the city.

The Citizens Committee on Police Practices, of which ACLU's New York branch is a member, told Mayor Vincent R. Impellitteri that action was badly needed. Among other things, it urged him to have the Police Department work out a plan "for improving the training of city policemen serving in minority-group areas." Further it asked that the department hold public hearings for members of the force charged with violence [illegible] other invasions of civil rights.

The demands stemmed from three major incidents — two attacks and a death — all within the last few months.

Just recently the New York County grand jury indicted Patrolman William A. Tierney on four counts of felonious assault and one of third-degree assault, after charges had been made by Robert Cox that he had been brutally attacked without provocation. The indictment was handed down after Police Commissioner Murphy had investigated the complaint of Cox's attorney, who said that because of the alleged beating, his client faced possible loss of sight in one eye and suffered a ruptured eardrum and bruises which were inflicted over his heart, face and body.

Tierney arrested Cox on a disorderly conduct charge, and took him to the police station, where the boy claims that he was beaten and kicked mercilessly for two hours by Tierney. Cox further charged that his pleas for a lawyer were ignored.

Tierney has stated that Cox was drunk and unmanageable. Witnesses, however, have testified that the boy seemed perfectly sober.

Clio Derrick Case

In the latter part of 1950, John Derrick, a 24-year-old discharged soldier, was shot and killed by two policemen the day after he left the Army. Derrick had been celebrating and drew a gun, the police said, when they stopped him for questioning. A grand jury cleared the two policemen.

John Harvey Brown, another victim of police brutality, received a judgment for $60,000 from the New York Supreme Court after charging that he suffered a fractured skull as a result of an unprovoked beating by two off-duty patrolmen. Brown was confined to a hospital for 16 days, during which he was operated upon and a metal plate inserted in his skull. Brown stated that while on his way to work Patrolmen Tyson and Hogan came out of a tavern with drawn guns and ordered him to put up his hands. He said that he complied with this order, and at their command, emptied his pockets of 80c and a knife. Brown further testified that one of the off-duty patrolmen then hit him with the butt of his revolver and "I came to four days later in Bellevue Hospital Prison Ward." Both patrolmen denied Brown's story.

Delaney's Nephew Beaten

Judge Delaney issued his statement after his nephew, William M. Delaney, 28, was beaten by three policemen because he refused to move from the stoop of his own home.

He was sitting on the stoop with his wife and a friend when the officers ordered him inside the house. When he protested, one patrolman struck Delaney over the head with a night stick and beat him into unconsciousness. The officer tied the victim up and another kicked him in the face.

The policemen then took Delaney to Harlem hospital. He was treated and taken to a precinct station and booked on a "felonious assault" charge.

Judge's Statement

Judge Delaney, justice of the Domestic Relations court, released the following statement through the NAACP which is investigating both incidents:

". . . Police brutality has been the mode in Harlem for years . . . If we of Harlem really cherish our freedom, we will realize that it is time to let the Police department and the city fathers know that we shall not continue to stand for police brutality in the future as we have in the past.

"We shall fight against police brutality in Harlem until we enjoy the same treatment by law enforcement agencies as are enjoyed by the citizens of other sections of our city."

Kin Beaten, Judge Delaney Scores Police

NEW YORK — Two instances of police brutality last week heightened the tension that has gripped this city and brought a blistering statement from Judge Hubert L. Delaney.

A crowd of 400 roamed the streets of Brooklyn, angry and bitter after a policeman shot and killed Henry Fields, 26, a hit and run driver. Police reinforcements broke up the mob.

Fields, according to authorities, fled the scene after colliding with another car. A squad car gave chase. A flat tire on Field's car halted it and the driver jumped out and ran. Police said Patrolman Samuel Applebaum fired a warning shot but it hit Field's car and ricocheted into the fleeing man's neck.

Angry Crowd Roams Streets After Brooklyn Negro Slaying

NEW YORK, May 28—(AP)—A Negro hit-and-run driver was shot to death by a policeman in Brooklyn late Saturday, setting an angry crowd to roaming the streets for several hours. A minister finally pacified the crowd.

The [illegible] brought some 50 policemen in 20 radio cars to the immediate scene in the Negro section of Brownsville.

Police said some 400 persons were milling around at the peak of the incident.

It began, police said, when an automobile operated by Henry Fields, 26, collided with another, knocking the second car over on its side.

The accident occurred at Osborne Street and Belmont Avenue, a crowded neighborhood.

Witnesses attracted the attention of Patrolmen Samuel Applebaum and Louis Schlesstein, in a police car, who pursued Fields.

Four blocks away Fields had a flat tire, police said, and he ran off.

Police said Applebaum warned the fleeing man to halt and then fired a warning shot in the air.

The bullet reportedly hit the halted automobile and riccocheted into the back of Fields' neck, killing him.

A crowd gathered in the Negro neighborhood. It grew in size and angry hundreds began shouting and threatening the police.

An emergency call brought police reinforcements, including several high ranking officers.

Meanwhile a Negro youth shouted, "The boys are being killed in Korea fighting and we're being killed here for things like this."

The cry seemed to arouse the crowd even more, police said, and the youth, who was not identified, was hustled off to a police station.

This caused a rumor to spread that the boy was being beaten.

The Rev. Boise Dent, Negro pastor of the Tabernacle Baptist Church, arrived on the scene and tried to quiet the mob.

He went to the police station, not far away and returned with the boy who said nothing had happened to him.

The crowd was pacified, but still milled about for several hours.

The car that turned over had five occupants. Police said none was hurt badly.

Death Of Youth Brings A Little Light To N. C.

13 e NC

By CLYDE REID

Th killing of a 17-year-old Negro High School boy by a police chief and his aide in La Grange, North Carolina on January 9, has awakened the white press of the community causing them to fight an injustice done a Negro, and aided in uniting the white and Negro townspeople against trouble-makers and trigger-happy cops.

Bobby Lee Joyner, whose mother lives in Harlem, was shot 10 times by two policemen who charge that the boy lunged at them with a knife when they surprised him as he attempted to cut through a screened window and enter the home of a white family.

For several months, La Grange police had been on the lookout for a Negro boy who had been "annoying" white women. Both officers involved in the shooting were exonerated by a coroner's jury within 24 hours after the incident. According to the jury, "these men acted in the line of duty."

To the amazement of Negro residents of La Grange both white newspapers of the community, the Kingston Free Press and Goldsboro News Argus, have labled the shooting an instance of extreme police brutality.

Articles concerning the incident appeared in the papers for two weeks.

Two days after the shooting, the Argus wrote an editorial that demanded further investigation of the matter. It implied that the officers were not merely "acting in the line of duty."

This editorial was enough to make any skeptic believe that democracy can and is working . . . even in some southern states of America.

The Free Press blamed the shooting on the lack of training given police in the area. According to the Free Press, the correct procedure in making such an arrest would be for the officer to order the suspect to raise his hands, drop any object he held . . . if any, then proceed to search.

When asked at the hearing why they shot so excessively, 10 times, both policemen stated that each was unaware of the other's firing. Yet, they were standing beside one another.

In order to prevent such unnecessary brutality, the Free Press is advocating a training program for the police of the area.

Ask Aid

Positive that the shooting didn't occur where it did or under the reported circumstances, Mrs. Lewis, mother of Bobby Lee and her sister, Mrs. Beatrice Shaw, also of New York City, have asked the NAACP to investigate the situation. They base their belief on the following facts:

(1) Bobby Lee Joyner, who lived with his grandmother was described by his minister and school teacher as an ideal young man. He had attended choir practice on the night of the shooting.

(2) Friends and members of the family who visited the scene of the shooting, found no signs of struggle or blood such as those normally left by similar incidents. According to the undertaker, several bullets passed through the body. However, none were seen in the side of the house.

The body was first taken to Kingston, 12 miles from La Grange, where the shooting supposedly took place. It was a full three hours after the shooting before the family was notified.

"Possibly some good will come out of the shooting" according to the victim's aunt, Mrs. Shaw. "At least the press is helping and believe me that's something! The Negroes of the town are determined upon stopping such incidents. If there are any "trouble-makers," the folks are certainly against them."

BOBBY LEE JOYNER

N. C. Deputy Kills Man Who Refuses To Submit To Arrest

13 e NC

RALEIGH, N. C. — (ANP) — James Red fell victim to a buckshot pellet at his home in Zebulon last week while resisting arrest and a search of his house for possession of non-tax paid liquor. The buckshot was fired by a deputy when Red appeared at the window of his home armed with a shotgun.

He had been visited by a deputy and an official of the ABC, who had a warrant to search his home. He told the two officers that the only place he would go "would be the cemetery."

The two officers left and secured reinforcements from the sheriff's office in Raleigh. The sheriff and a number of deputies, plus local officers surrounded the house.

Mrs. Red came out of the building and told the Sheriff that she would induce her husband to surrender if the officers would not hurt him. She was assured that no harm would come to her husband, whereupon she returned to the house.

At that moment, a deputy standing in the road shouted, "Look out ...he's got a gun." Another deputy quickly leveled his shotgun and fired. The pellet pierced the wanted man in the left side of his chest, killing him instantly.

A coroner's jury returned the verdict of "justifiable homicide."

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Bethel Cop Beats Negro To Death

GREENVILLE, N.C. — (ANP) — Severely wounded from blackjack blows struck by a white Bethel Community police officer, Garland Willis, 24, died last week. The officer reportedly attacked Willis after the latter had beat and temporarily crippled his wife.

The officer told the coroner this story:

Willis went home drunk and started an argument with his wife. He struck her, temporarily crippling her, and then beat her with his fist. The woman left the house and swore out a warrant against him.

When officer Thompson went to the Willis home, he found him on a bed with their four children. When the officer told him he was under arrest, Willis threatened him and refused to go. Willis then attacked the officer with a bottle and a flashlight. During the struggle, the officer got out his blackjack.

Upon seeing that Willis was badly wounded by his blows, Thompson took him to a doctor's office, where his wounds were dressed. The doctor then advised that Willis be taken to a hospital. His skull had been fractured by the blackjack, resulting in his death.

Cop Blackjacks Race Lawyer In School Suit

One-Man Police Department Cracks Defense Counsel Over Forehead on Street

By A. M. RIVERA Jr.

ROPER, N. C.—The old Southern expression that "all Negroes look alike to white people" received dramatic and unexpected support here last week when a Negro attorney representing the county authorities in a school equalization suit, was blackjacked by the town's one-man police department.

The incident happened here on the first night of the four-day trial when Police Chief Robert Sawyer sought to break up a gathering of Negroes discussing the case.

Atty. William R. Butts, Newport News, Va., who appeared earlier in the day as counsel for the state, was among those who were asked to "move on," by Sawyer. Butts is reported to have questioned authority of the officer who was in plain clothes and unknown to him.

HIT ON FOREHEAD

Eyewitnesses to the affair claim that Sawyer resented the visiting attorney's request to see his credentials and instead of producing them, the officer cracked Butts across the forehead with his blackjack.

According to the 44-year-old Negro lawyer, Sawyer ordered him and others to move because they were blocking a sidewalk. After an exchange of words Sawyer placed Butts under arrest. Butts said he then asked the policeman to let him get his coat which contained money where he figured he would have to put up for bail bond. It was at this point he said that he was struck with a blackjack.

Sawyer claimed that he struck Butts when he attempted to break loose while under arrest. Butts spent the night in the hospital, but appeared as counsel in the trial the following day.

TAKING NO ACTION

Friday, the Roper Town Board announced that it would not take any action against Sawyer who blackjacked Butts. Butts told this reporter Saturday that he did not contemplate action against the officer.

This act of violence was one of the dramatic highlights of the second phase of a trial brought by Negroes in Washington County seeking equal school facilities for Negro school children. The first phase of this litigation was reported in the Courier, Aug. 18.

Results in the agreement by white school authorities that present facilities for Negroes are unequal at which time U. S. District Federal Judge Don Gilliam ordered the school officials of Washington County, their successors, and the State Board of Education to "adopt and prosecute" a program which will end discrimination against the Negro race and afford educational facilities, equipment, curricula and opportunities equal to those furnished the white pupils of said county.

On the third day of the second phase of the trial held last week, Atty. M. Hugh Thompson of Durham, pointed out that the defendants had admitted that inequalities now exist and asked that Negroes be admitted to the white schools until the Negro schools were equalized with the whites. This motion created more excitement than the altercation between Butts and Sawyer.

State Attorney General Harry McMullen accused Attorney Thompson with being frivolous and trifling with the court. Thompson declared that he was never more serious in his life and demanded and received a public apology from McMullen in open court.

Counsel for the plaintiffs associated with Mr. Thompson, P. H. Bell and Charles V. Bell, attacked a plan to consolidate three schools, Creswell, Plymouth and Roper, into one school to be located in Roper. They contended that though the proposed consolidated Negro school would be equal to any one of the three now existing white high schools (located in Creswell, Plymouth and Roper) that long distances to be traveled by Negro pupils would constitute inequality.

Significantly, this is one of the first cases to test the constitutionality of the consolidated school plan.

SWITCHED SIDES

Butts, who was associated with counsel for the plaintiffs in the first phase of the suit, switched to the defense last week, and appeared with the Attorney General Ralph Moody, Assistant Attorney General Carl Bailey and Z. Vance Norman favoring the consolidation movement.

If the plan succeeds the school will be placed in Roper, the geographical center of the county and schools at Plymouth and Crestwell for Negroes will be discontinued. Understandably Negroes in Roper support the consolidation plan because they will have the county high school. Negro children of Crestwell and Plymouth, unlike the white who have modern facilities in most places, will have to leave their communities to attend the consolidated school.

Butts, who was associated with attorneys for the state was not seated with the white defense attorneys at their regular table in the court, but sat at a special table situated between counsel for the plaintiffs and counsel for the defendants.

Officer Beats Man to Death

Says Victim Tried to Avoid Arrest

GREENVILLE, N.C. — Latest victim to succumb to a police beating here was Garland Willis, 24, of the Bethel Community who died Thursday morning after being beaten about the head by a blackjack on Wednesday night.

The officer, J. G. Thompson, told County Coroner Griffin H. Rouse that he struck Willis over the head several times after Willis resisted arrested in the latter's home.

According to the policeman's story, he went to the Willis home to arrest him after Mrs. Willis had sworn out a warrant against her husband charging that he had struck her, temporarily crippling her, and then beat her with his fists.

When he arrived, Thompson stated, Willis was on a bed with his four children, and he aroused him and told him he was under arrest. He says that Willis jumped up and grabbed a flashlight and bottle, and he got out his blackjack. The officer insisted that he did not use his gun during the struggle.

When the policeman discovered that Willis was badly wounded, he took him to a doctor who suggested that he be taken to a hospital because his skull was fractured.

Central Area Citizens Demand Probe of Latest Police Killing

Group to Take Appeal to Mayor

The Cleveland NAACP and a group of other organizations were still trying Tuesday night to secure a conference with Mayor Thomas Burke to demand a full investigation into the killing early Monday morning of 55-year-old Adolphus French by a police officer whom French had called to help apprehend two thieves who had stolen French's car.

French, a Jamaican native who had come to this country during the last World War and had remained, was shot once through the arm and chest in front of 3541 Woodland Ave.

Officers' Story

Detective Patton and Detective Joseph Unateny, who answered French's call for help, made a report to Police Prosecutor Joseph Stearns' office Monday morning in which they gave this version of the shooting:

They had been called to the scene of the shooting where they saw French holding another man at bay at the point of a pistol. They called to him to drop the weapon, telling him they were police officers. He turned on them with the pistol, and they fired the fatal shot. The prosecutor ruled the killing 'justifiable'.

This version was contradicted by several witnesses, some of whom made statements at police headquarters and signed them, but were not called into the hearing in the prosecutor's office. These witnesses gave their statements to the NAACP and to Atty. Wyatt Brownlee Monday afternoon.

CAR WAS STOLEN

James Perry, who called the officers who shot the Jamaican, said that he was standing on Woodland Avenue when French saw two men in his automobile, which had been stolen earlier in the day. French, Perry said, went up to the two men and drew a pistol. He demanded that they stand still, and called for help. One of the men broke away, Perry reported, and French shot once into the air. He continued to hold the other man against the automobile.

When French continued to call for police, Perry said, he, Perry, went into the Cleveland Grocery Baking Co., where the two officers were (they have been known to visit the bakery before in the early morning, and to leave with bags of baked goods).

Perry reported that he called the officers to the scene, and that they ran out to the corner of the building. As they reached the corner they saw French with the gun and fired one shot. This was the shot which killed the man.

Witness Positive

Asked repeatedly by Charles Lucas whether the officers had at any time told French to drop the pistol, or had in any way identified themselves as police, Perry stated positively that thep had not.

Perry said that he had insisted at police headquarters that this be included in his statement, and refused to sign it unless it was. He said that he also asked why his statement at headquarters, when typed out, did not contain the information he had given that the two officers were in the bakery when he called them, and was told simply 'Sign it.' He said that he waited more than two hours before any statement was taken, and nobody asked him to testify at the prosecutor's hearing later.

Tried to Sell Car

Matthew Luck, 2555 E. 35th St., told the NAACP that he was visiting a friend at 3541 Woodland Sunday night when a man named Hodge (William Hodge, later held for the car theft) came up and offered to sell a car which later turned out to be French's. He and a man who was 'interested' drove in the vehicle. .. ....

About 1 o'clock, he said, he was back at 3541 when Perry told him that "The police are in the bakery". Almost immediately afterward he said he heard French yelling for help and calling 'Police'. He was standing between the car where French held the car thief and the corner of the building.

Luck estimated that he was less than 15 feet away from the corner of the building when Patton reached it. He saw the officer, pistol drawn, reach the corner and fire. He said that he did not hear anyone say 'Drop the gun' or that 'We are officers'. No one said anything until after the one shot was fired, Luck said.

We've Got Enough

Luck said that the officers took Perry, Rufus Brown and another man downtown for statements, but did not take him. He reported that the officers said "We've got enough".

Several officers reached the scene shortly after the shooting, Luck said, and one, a higher officer whom he could not identify, went over to Det. Patton. "I'm sorry I had to do it", Luck said he heard Patton say, and the oficer "With a lot of stripes on his arm" told Patton "That's alright; it was him or you". Luck was not called to testify before the prosecutor.

William Garland, 2555 E. 35th said that he had seen the same detectives in the neighborhood times, usually in the vicinity bakery. He was in his house, he said, and heard the shot fired by French. He said he then heard running feet, and went to his back door, which faces on the lot next to the building where Patton fired.

Was In Full View

Garland said that he was in full view of all that happened, and could hear clearly anything that was said. He did not hear anyone warn French to drop his pistol.

Rufus Brown, proprietor of a grocery store, was at the scene and was emphatic in his statement that "This was an unwarranted killing that comes close to being outright murder.

"Nobody said a single word to indicate that they were policemen", he said. "At no time did French menace the officers with his pistol; he never had a chance to. Before he knew what was happening, he had been shot.

"If anyone says he told French to drop his gun, he is telling a deliberate untruth. I went to headquarters and I made this statement. I would not sign anything until I saw it on paper just like I gave it to them. But nobody called me to any hearing at the prosecutor's office or anywhere else".

Others Not Called

Several other persons saw the killing, and were not summoned to testify.

Lucas and Brownlee issued a joint statement to the Call and Post Tuesday in which they said "This is another case where cases are railroaded through the prosecutor's office without any semblance of a fair, impartial and judicious hearing.

"It is very true that French had a pistol, and may well have been considered a menace to the safety of the area.

"But in failing to identify themselves as officers, as several witnesses have testified, and in giving French no chance whatever to save his life, the officers have certainly shown their action to be open to question—and subject to more than a superficial, coroner-chamber investigation in Prosecutor Stearns' office.

"Just As Dead"

"If French had been a plain-clothes officer in the lawful performance of his duties, he would have been just as dead; the officers never tried to find out. Instead, they acted in a manner that showed either the panic of inexperience or the callous disregard of men not sincere in the performance of their duties.

"In any event", the statement concluded, "the case was one more item in the growing chain of events to show that the office of the police prosecutor is one in which the rights of citizens play no part, where serious and fair investigation is forgotten entirely when the perpetrators of some act are police officers, and where such witnesses are heard as the prosecutor wants to hear, and other important witnesses are left strictly out of the picture.

1951 Species—Police Brutality Victim

Newest victim of Philadelphia's "strong arm of the law" was bartender Robert Hale, second from left, charged with drunk and disorderly conduct, who told Magistrate George Levin that Patrolman Bergen, No. 1629, at left, clubbed him Sunday night after Mrs. Hale fled the house in her nightdress. Also shown are Edward Arrington, center, who accompanied Hale to the hospital and police station; Mrs. Hale, and Atty. Thomas M. Reed, Hale's counsel.

Brutality In S. Carolina Catches Another Soldier

COLUMBIA, S. C.—(ANP)—The South Carolina NAACP conference launched an investigation here last week into another instance of police brutality against a Negro soldier, which is said to rival that visited upon Isaac Woodard a few years ago.

Victim of the latest attack is Pvt. Jone Ben Wright, Jr., who was arrested in Saluda on Dec. 23 by Chief of Police Corley and Officer Long at a colored cafe and given a brutal beating in the local jail. No reason for the arrest and beating were disclosed, but Eugene A. R. Montgomery, executive secretary of the state NAACP branch, said Wright's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joe B. Wright, Sr., of Saluda, had asked for the organization's help.

Preliminary investigation by the NAACP reveals that Wright was severly beaten by Corley and Long at the city jail after his arrest. The victim was released on Christmas eve in custody of his father under $40 bond and the promise that the soldier would be present for trial on Dec. 26.

Christmas day, however, Pvt. Wright was despondent and could not move his left arm. His parents, failing to locate a doctor, took him to the station hospital at Fort Jackson, where doctors reported his condition as "serious."

On the day his trial was to be held, Wright was being transferred by air to Walter Reed Hospital in Washington, suffering from a fractured skull and partial paralysis of his left side.

On Jan. 4, Wright's father received a letter from Col. M. L. Sheppeck, executive officer of the hospital, saying his son had improved to such an extent that "he is no longer considered to be seriously ill—while he is making excellent progress, his recovery will be gradual and he will require a further period of hospitalization for observation and medical care.

The State NAACP has sent requests to Atty. J. Howard McGrath and the adjutant general, Department of the Army, for full investigation and action in the case.

This is the third incident to occur in Saluda county within the past nine months. The first was the beating of John McKinney and his wife by a hooded mob. Following this, John L. Daniels was the victim of a threat and cross-burning incident.

Saluda is only 16 miles from the place where Isaac Woodard was brutally beaten and blinded during a verbal clash with police.

Demand Probe Of Police Brutality

COLUMBIA, S. C.— Investigators of a case of severe police brutality to a Negro soldier in Saluda County, S. C. are being demanded of the Justice Department and the Department of the Army by the South Carolina State Conference of Branches of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

The demand followed an unmerciful beating by two policemen of Pvt. Joe B. Wright, Jr. aged 19, resulting in a fractured skull and partial paralysis in the left side. Eugene A. R. Montgomery, executive secretary of the N. A. A C. P. State Conference reported after investigation of the case that Private Wright was arrested without reason, brutally beaten, and was in such "bad shape" that he had to be flown from the Station Hospital at Fort Jackson, his base to Walter Reed Hospital in Washington.

"This is the third incident that we know to have occurred in Saluda County within the past nine months," Mr. Montgomery reported. He cited the whipping of John McKinney and his wife by a masked group, and the burning of a cross in the front yard of John L. Daniels after he had voted in the July primaries despite threats.

Soldier's Skull Broken, Side Still Paralyzed

Only Offense Was His Army Uniform

NOW IN HOSPITAL

Justice Department Investigating Case

WASHINGTON.

Officials of the Department of the Army refused to comment to the AFRO, Tuesday, about the case of a South Carolina soldier, Pvt. Joe Ben Wright Jr., who was the victim of police brutality while on leave at Saluda, S.C., during the Christmas holidays.

The refusal to reveal the progress of an investigation that has been undertaken by the Department was based on the opinion that any announcement concerning the probe would tip the hands of the policemen who were allegedly involved in the incident.

AFRO reporters, as a result, were denied an interview with Private Wright at Walter Reed Hospital where he has been suffering from a fractured skull and partial paralysis in his left side.

The South Carolina Conference of NAACP Branches also is conducting an independent investigation of the outrage, according to Eugene A. R. Montgomery, executive president of the conference.

Gives Version

A sister of the brutality victim, Mrs. Thelma Triplin, 914 Third St., N.W., an employee of Government Services Inc., located by the AFRO, said that she had visited her brother about four or five times since he was transferred to Walter Reed from the Fort Jackson Army Hospital on Dec. 26.

Her account of the beatings, as it was told to her by her brother, follows:

On Dec. 23, Private Jackson was seated in a beer tavern in Saluda, S.C., when two officers entered. They have been identified as Chief of Police Corley and Officer Long in dispatches from South Carolina.

The officers, according to her story, charged the private with being boisterous. Evidentally, she said, he protested that he was not boisterous, so they grabbed him.

Dragged Through Streets

He was dragged from the tavern and placed in jail. Mrs. Triplin said that she was told a field jacket that he was wearing was full of holes as result of his being dragged through the streets.

The GI was held at jail overnight, the sister said he told her, where he was severely beaten by Corley and Long. On Christmas Eve he was released under the custody of his father.

On Christmas Day, Private Wright suffered from intense head pains and could not move his arm. Attempts by his parents to locate a local doctor were unsuccessful, so he was taken to a hospital on the post at Fort Jackson.

Left Side Paralyzed

His condition was reported "serious" so he was transferred to Walter Reed Hospital. According to hospital authorities, Private Wright's condition is "fairly good." His left side is still paralyzed, however.

Mrs. Triplin revealed that Private Wright volunteered for the Army during September.

The soldier is 20 years old and single, she said. Another relative, Wilbur Wright, a brother, resides with Mrs. Triplin at the 3rd St. address.

Meanwhile, news of the beating and arrest had spread. The elder Wright said he visited Chief Corley, whom he has known for many years, and was told: "Yeah, we got him, Joe; had to take him."

The elder Wright was permitted to talk with his son, who told him he had done nothing.

CHERAW MAN BLIND AFTER COP BEATING

CHERAW — Machinery of the state NAACP Conference was set into motion on the weekend as a probe was being made into the brutal beating and blinding of an employee at the Anderson Veneer Mill on April 28, after he had been arrested by a town officer.

Eugene A. Montgomery, who has been investgating the case, said the victim is Curtha Johnson, who has completely lost sight of one eye and was to return to a Florence City hospital early in the week to ascertain whether or not sight in the second eye can be restored in full or part.

Presently, he said, Johnson is totally blind.

Waits On Mayor

The following Thursday, almost one week later, a committee of citizens called on the town's mayor and complained about the mayor and complained about the incident. A local physician was sent to examine Johnson and had him rushed to the McLeod Infirmary in Florence Mr. Montgomery said.

There ,the discovery of the loss of one eye was made and the possible loss of sight in the other eye reported.

Johnson left the Florence hospital last Saturday, he said, but was to report on Tuesday of this week for a final word from the examining physician.

In a sworn statement by Johnhim at the time of arrest and son, he said the officer struck used his fists, club and an "instrument" once he had been placed in the jail. He said he was also kicked by the officer.

His statement concluded:

"I was released from jail Saturday night with vision gone in my right eye. When I awoke Sunday morning my sight was gone in both eyes."

Had Been Drinking

Mr. Montgomery said his investigation showed that Johnson reported to his job about an hour before work time the morning of April 28 and was arrested by an officer whom he didn't identify, in response to a call from the night watchman at the plant, whom he didn't name either.

He said aparently Johnson and the watchman exchanged words as the latter requested Johnson to move so a kiln could be unloaded.

Johnson, he said, had been drinking at the time.

The officer placed the man on the front seat of the car and the two left for the town jail, the NAACP secretary said his study shows. What happened between that time and that night when $28.00 bond was posted and Johnson released on a disorderly conduct charge, he wasn't certain, excepting that the man had been viciously assaulted.

NAACP Demands Probe

FBI, Army On Spot in Gl Beating

Sat. 1-27-51

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The demand followed an unmerciful beating by two policemen of Pvt. J. C. Wright Jr., 19, resulting in a fractured skull and partial paralysis in the left side.

WITHOUT REASON

Eugene A. R. Montgomery, executive secretary to the NAACP State Conference, reported after investigation of the case that Private Wright was arrested without reason, brutally beaten, and was in such "bad shape" that he had to be flown from the Station Hospital at Fort Jackson, his base, to Walter Reed Hospital in Washington.

"This is the third incident that we know to have occurred in Saluda County within the past nine months," Mr. Montgomery reported. He cited the whipping of John McKinney and his wife by a masked group, and the burning of a cross in the front yard of John L. Daniels after he had voted in the July primaries despite threats.

Cops Still on Duty After Slapping CME Minister

MEMPHIS, Tenn.—The brutality of Dixie cops, often wreaked on innocent people of color, received an indirect slap in the face here last week as a city judge dismissed charges of "loitering" and "resisting arrest" which were levelled against a local minister.

"This court is not going to sanction disrespect for law in any manner," asserted Judge Beverly Bousche. "It is going to uphold the law as long as it can legally do so." With that the jurist dismissed the case against the Rev. Dewitt T. Alcorn, CME, brought into the court by officers R. H. Stoke and T. S. Lawrence.

The Rev. Mr. Alcorn had accused the officers of beating him when he was arrested recently at 1:15 A. M. at the Greyhound Bus Terminal cafeteria. Mr. Alcorn said that he was sitting in the "Negro" cafeteria in the terminal when the officers accosted him. Taking him to the bus station waiting room, he charges, they began "calling me a Communist, a Red, and a member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People."

He said they accused him of being "an informer and a complainer" and declared that the officers said "he reported things." After this verbal assault was concluded they hit him in the eye and stomach, the minister said. He also said they pushed him into the squad car, drove around to an alley and hit him "several more times."

He was beaten badly enough to be ordered to the John Gaston Hospital. Although the minister's eye and face were swollen, Officer Lawrence told the Court that he "slapped Alcorn on the left side of the face when he swung at me and missed as I put him in the squad car." He added that the minister "may have hurt his eye when he bumped against the car when I pushed him inside."

Witnesses testified that Officer Lawrence kicked the pastor as he was led away from the station.

Testimony revealed that the Rev. Mr. Alcorn has been selling the Courier and magazines at the bus station with the "approval" of the Chief of Police.

Atty. Lucius E. Burch Jr., after several witnesses to the incident had given their stories, asserted, "I think it is time your honor, in clear ringing tones, announce that this court is not going to sanction disrespect for law as has been evidenced in this case."

It was then that the judge handed down his verdict but not before announcing that he has "no intention of not upholding the officers when they are doing their sworn duties."

After the trial one observer at the trial remarked, "That verdict still didn't do the Rev. Mr. Alcorn's puffed up eye any good!"

GI Beaten, Shot In Back by Cops

Mississippi Jails Former Officers Convicted of Forcing Four Negroes to Confess Murder That Didn't Happen

MEMPHIS—Close on the heels of the imprisonment of two white men for the beating of four Negroes in Indianola, Miss., the Midsouth area was shocked this week with the reported shooting and beating of a Negro soldier by a sheriff and his deputy in Tiptonville, Tenn.

Pvt. Willie B. Owensby, hospitalized in Kennedy Veterans Hospital, with bullet wounds in his back and leg, accused Deputy Sheriff W. C. (Peck) Haynes and Sheriff [illegible] Haynes of the unprovoked attack charging that the deputy hit him across the forehead with an empty Coca-Cola bottle and, a few minutes later, the sheriff shot him twice.

BIRMINGHAM—What seems to be a wave of police brutality directed at soldiers and veterans hit this area last week. Hardly had Policeman E. M. Goodwin been cleared of beating a prisoner (an incident reported by the wife of Mayor Cooper Green, an eyewitness) before Police Chief Marcus Hancock ordered a probe of the reported beating of T. A. Allen, a veteran who was a prisoner.

MISSISSIPPI CASE

The report of the attack of Pvt. Owensby came at almost the same time that Charles R. Underwood, self-styled private detective of Cleveland, Miss., and Homer Sheffield, ex-deputy sheriff and jailer of Indianola, Miss., were given six months in jail and fined $500 after they pleaded guilty to having beaten four Negroes last July and made three of them confess a murder which never happened.

While the men were still in jail, the alleged victim's family notified the police that the missing man was actually visiting relatives in East St. Louis. The four suspects later were released from jail.

The grand jury indicted Sheffield and Underwood.

ARMY MAY PROBE

Concurrently with the conclusion of the case in Indianola, Army officials were considering the possibility of requesting an investigation of Private Owensby's charges. Brigadier General Frank Bowman, chief of staff at Fort Belvoir, where the 21-year-old soldier was stationed, said he planned to consult the judge advocate about the proper procedure in ordering an inquiry.

In Tiptonville Sheriff Haynes admitted shooting the soldier although his story differed in major respects.

He denied Owensby's charges that the attack was unprovoked but charged that the soldier resisted arrest when he tried to arrest him on disorderly conduct and drunken charges.

Owensby had told hospital authorities that "Peck" Haynes who runs a Negro hotel in Tiptonville, had started an argument charging that the young Negro owed him money.

"I used to pick cotton for him on his farm before I joined the Army. He would often give his hands four or five dollars as a "gift" to spend on a holiday and then later say it was a loan. He did that so you would work it out for him.

"I didn't owe him anything. Some of the other boys at the counter told me not to say anything because Mr. Peck was drunk. I kept quiet. Then he leaned across the counter and slapped me across the mouth twice. He ran from behind the counter and hit me with a coke bottle across my forehead.

"I ran down the road and went into a cafe owned by J. C. Haynes. I was going to get change and call the Military Police in Memphis or at Fort Belvoir and tell them what was happening.

"Mr. J. C. was inside. I asked him for change. He said 'get out of here boy, before I kill you. He picked up a club that looked like a rocker off a rocking chair and started toward me. I ran out. I still wanted to call the MP's, so I crossed the railroad track and went to a filling station looking for change. The place was closed. As I started to leave, I saw a car drive up. It stopped and Mr. J. C. got out. He had a pistol in his hand'.

SHOT IN BACK

"He pointed the gun at me and said, 'Cmon, let's go. I'm going to kill you'. As I pleaded with him he shot me in the leg and I turned and ran. He shot me again and hit me in the back near my right shoulder blade. It staggered me, but I kept running down the railroad track. I made it to the Ella Dance Hotel where my sister-in-law stays. I fell on her bed and told her to call an ambulance."

Sheriff Haynes' story was that Owensby had created a disturbance in his cafe and that the shooting took place after he had ordered him out.

STARTED SHOOTING

"I heard him swearing on the street outside," he said "and I told him to get in the car, I was going to take him to jail. He said he was in the Army now and didn't have to take orders from anybody and started shooting. I've got about a half-dozen witnesses to prove that he shot at

me first."

The sheriff said he followed the wounded soldier to the Ella Dance Hotel with Chief of Police Barker and arrested Owensby in the presence of Barker "and several Negroes."

The sheriff said Owensby was so drunk that he didn't know who shot him. The sheriff claimed he found the gun Owensby had used near the railroad track about fifteen or twenty steps from the hotel.

The Tiptonville doctor who treated Owensby said that the soldier was drinking.

Owensby is based at Fort Belvoir, Va., with the Ninety-fourth Engineering Construction Battalion.

2nd Slaying Stirs Tennessee Campus

Defender

Sat. 10-20-51

By GEORGE WHITE

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — An 18-year-old Tennessee State college sophomore was brutally slain last week, the second Tennessee State student to meet death by violence in less than a year.

Victim of recent gunplay was Lee Andrew Baker, whose body, riddled by 14 bullet wounds, was found in a ditch not far from his home on 28th ave., North, late Monday.

Police said investigation disclosed that his assailant used a P-38 German automatic.

Earlier this year Miss Rosa Adkins, of South Pittsburgh, Tenn., was slain on the Tennessee state campus between classes by Marvin Blaine Jr., a school employe, following a lovers' quarrel. Blaine later committed suicide.

Police seeking a clue to the killer and a motive for the slaying said they have very little to work on.

Nearest to a witness in Baker's slaying is Alfred Allen of 1503 Division st. Allen said he saw blasts from a gun as he was driving south on 28th ave., North. It was he who discovered the youth's body a few minutes later.

A pencil-drawn picture of a girl with a gun pointing to her hand was found on the dead youth's body. Police said there were two hands on the gun in the pencil picture.

It was at Baker's home, 929 Twenty-eighth ave., North, that Lula May Dobson was slain earlier this year as a soldier friend showed her and Baker how to play "Russian Roulette."

Miss Dobson, a 16-year-old high school student, was fatally wounded when James Oldham, 20, spun the cylinder of the pistol and pulled the trigger. Oldham claimed the girl's death was an accident and was acquitted.

The youth is survived by his mother, Mrs. Lula Baker and a sister, Paula. He was a member of Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity. He was a distant relative of Henry Allen Boyd, leader of the Boyd Baptists, and member of a prominent family.

13e 1951

Tennessee

Police Assault On City Minister Protested To Mayor

Reports of unprovoked public attack upon Rev. Dewitt T. Alcorn, prominent CME minister and newspaper distributor, brought immediate protests from several organized groups last week. The victim was so viciously assailed that he had to undergo emergency treatment at John Gaston Hospital, and later be confined at Collins Chapel Hospital, according to reports to this publication.

Among protesting groups were the Inter-denominational Ministers Alliance of which Rev. J. A. McDaniel is president; and the Memphis Branch of the NAACP headed by Utillus Phillips.

NAACP president Phillips, in his communication to Mayor Watkins Overton said "we know your duties are onerous and complicated, but we ask you to take a hand in eradicating needless police brutality."

Rev. Alcorn was picked up at the Greyhound Bus Station during the early morning hour of June 26th and was badly beaten about the head and mid-section of the body, according to reports. Examination indicates that some injuries may have been done to one of his eyes, it was pointed out.

The minister was arrested and charged with loitering and resisting arrest by Police Officers R. H. Stokes, and I. S. Lawrence. A $51.00 bond was posted on each charge. When the case was brought up in City Court last Thursday, it was dismissed. Rev. Alcorn was represented in court by Attorney Lucius Burch, well known corporation lawyer, and civic leader, who was quoted as declaring that Alcorn "was pretty badly beaten up."

Judge Boushe made it clear that if the person arrested is not guilty of the orginial offense on which he was apprehended then the additional charge of resisting arrest had no basis. The charge of loitering was dismissed, and Ttty. Burch referred to the evidence in the Hudson case which had been tried in the local court and the Court of Appeals in asking for dismissal of the second charge of resisting arrest.

Ministers of the Inter-Denominational Alliance which drew up a special resolution protesting the police attack were President McDaniel, Rev. R. V. Johnson, Rev. W. L. Varnado, Rev. S. A. Owen. Conferences were likewise held with City Attorney Jesse Vineyard, and several other city officials. Police Commissioner Armour, and Police Chief Reeves had made no statement on the case at this writing.

Since returning from Oklahoma and Kansas on pastoral assignments in the CME Church, Rev. Alcorn native Memphian, has engaged mainly in distribution of several national publications. He has been well known to political leaders of Memphis and Shelby County over a number of years, working particularly close with U. S. Senator Kenneth McKellar.

"I have no rancour nor hatred, Rev Alcorn told the press when asked about the case. He added, however:

"While it is a most cowardly and criminal act that officers of the law should assault me in the dark of midnight in an alley, and I may have to go through life bereft of my sight and with my health impaired, I still insist that I shall never hate. My ardor for justice will not be daunted. Hate is an awful disease.

But you don't hate one with leprosy or cancer. You heal them. Perchance they cannot be healed, you quarantine the min order that they will not be a menace to society. My labor is based on the faith that the growing political health of the South will, for its own protection, isolate in the political pest house those with this morbid disease."

"The intelligent use of the ballot will help put a stop to this sort of police brutality," Rev. Alcorn insisted.

Rev. Alcorn said that the police officers called him a "Communist, a meddler and informer, who reported things."

Beating A Prophet

FROM THE CHRISTIAN INDEX, OFFICIAL ORGAN, COLORED METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Rev. Dewitt Alcorn, pastor of one of our churches in Memphis, was attacked and beaten by police in the Greyhound Bus station at Memphis, Tenn. Rev. Alcorn claims that the officers called him a Communist, an informer, a member of the NAACP. The officers claimed they were arresting Rev. Alcorn for loitering and resisting arrest.

The city judge dismissed the charges. Witnesses testified that officers kicked Rev. Alcorn as he was led from the police station. Rev. Alcorn claims that they pushed him into the squad car and hit him several more times, beating him badly enough to be ordered to the hospital.

Rev. Alcorn who pastors a small church is also a newspaper man and was distributing papers and magazines to add to the meager support he receives from the church. He is widely known and respected throughout the church. He is a spokesman and champion for Negro rights in a city where it is some times unsafe to defend the rights of Negroes.

While Rev. Alcorn received support and unstinted help from fellow ministers, civic organizations and leading citizens of both races, he was advised by some of his friends that as a minister it might be more appropriate to curtail his activities as a news agent and representative in public places like rail and bus stations.

Rev. Alcorn is a trained, experienced pastor and writer, and leader of our people. We regret that he was the victim of such police brutality. We hope that this attack on a preacher will help put an end to police brutality on other race victims who may not have the influence and courage to protect themselves. True prophets and disciples of Christ still run the risk of being beaten.

OFFICER SLAYS NEGRO, FIRED

Citizens Protest Police Slaying Of C. Staten

Organized protest against the fatal shooting of Charles Staten, 27 of 369 Hernando Street Saturday night by police officers is being registered by several groups which feel that the slaying was unnecessary in view of the minor offense of which he was guilty.

Among the protesting organizations is the North Memphis Civic Club which held a mass meeting to deplore the indiscriminate tactics used by police officers in the Thomas Street area.

Several witnesses have reported that the police officers arrived at the scene of the dice game shooting. One of the witnesses said that he secured the number of the badge of the police officers who shot Staten. In the meantime Chief of Police Reeves refused to divulge the name of the officers who fatally shot Staten or to state specifically the crime he was accused of aside from the dice shooting.

The North Memphis Civic Club, in connection with the protest asked that colored police officers be placed in the area of North Memphis where the shooting ocurred.

The widow of the slain man, Mrs. Dezzie Staten, also attended the meeting which was held at Hayes and Langston Funeral Home Monday of this week. She is also expecting a child.

Memphis Officer Fired In Negro Shooting Case

MEMPHIS, Feb. 26 — (AP) — Policeman Hubert W. Pilcher, an officer for two months, was fired Monday for the slaying of a 27-year-old Negro man who was killed as he fled from a dice game raid.

Chief Edward Reeves announced Pilcher's dismissal and said facts from his investigation would be turned over to the grand jury. He said Sgt. J. C. Hamby had been suspended pending an investigation.

Protests By Group Pays Off

(Special to The Courier)

MEMPHIS—Condoned and indiscriminate shooting of Negroes by policemen on the slightest provocation in Memphis is on the way out. Patrolman Herbert W. Pilcher, white, a rookie officer, who fatally shot Charles Staten, 27, as Staten fled a river-front dice game, was dismissed from the force last week.

In addition to this action by city authorities, Sgt. J. C. Hamby, one of the four officers making the raid on the dice game, last week was reported under suspension pending further investigation.

These steps were taken following strong protests by a Negro civic group. Staten's slaying took place on Saturday, Feb. 24. He was shot in the back.

The protest was lodged with city officials by the North Memphis Civic League after a meeting held last week at a local funeral home. The young war veteran's widow, an expectant mother, was in the group of more than forty persons attending the meeting.

One outcome of the protest meeting is that leaders are now demanding that colored police officers be assigned to patrol the North Memphis district where the slaying took place. Another is that the slaying was expected to be presented to the grand jury for consideration.

Although police authorities were conducting their own investigation of the incident last week, officials so far have declined comment on the happening.

Funeral service for the ETO veteran were held last Wednesday evening at Ebenezer Baptist Church where standing room was said to be at a premium. The pastor of the church, the Rev. E. L. Slay, conducted services.

2 WHITE STATION MEN ACCUSE POLICE OF BEATING THEM WITH BLACKJACKS—MADE NO CHARGES

An increasing number of complaints about police brutality is being reported by the public press. Thanks to the alertness of the Memphis Press-Scimitar and its traditional policy of reporting the news without bias or favoritism, these complaints—mostly from Negroes, have been given public airing. The Scimitar, in its edition of Saturday, April 28th, gives the following account of a complaint coming out of White Station, which city:-

James Allen, 21, charged that he and his brother-in-law, E. D. Hall, 23, both of 5136 Truce Road, White Station, were beaten with blackjacks by police riday, April 27th.

"Hill and I do lansdcaping together, "Allen said. "We drove into Bianchi and Fowler Service Station in White Station to get gas about 9 Sun. night. Police Squad Car 44, with the two officers who come at 3:30 were there.

"They called Hill over and put him in the car. I went over and asked permission to talk to him and the officers said no, they were going to take him out and beat him. In a little while, they brought Hill back and he had been beaten.

"They called me over and told me to get into the car, As I got in, one of the officers kicked me in the groin. They didn't say a word. They drove out to a dark place on Harvey Road where they had taken Hill, he told me later. They stopped and both officers beat me about the head with black jacks. I don't know how many times. I nearly lost consciousness. Then they took me back to the filling station.

"They never did accuse me of any thing. I did not say anything smart to them or anything like that."

"Asked if he had a police record, Allen said he had been arrested only for shooting dice. He said a white man at the station saw police take him away and bring him back."

The Press-Scimitar pointed out that it was disclosed that the previous Saturday night, four others of the White Station were beaten by the same officers. According to Allen they were Kenny Fox, Robert and Ben Franklin, and Willie Jones.

Allen said the officers gave no reason for beating him or Hill.Commissioner Claude Armour, when told of Allen's charge, said he had received no previous complaint would talk to the officers and the men themselves. He declined to give names of officers on duty in the car at the time, saying he wasn't certain Car 44 was involved, the SCIMITAR story stated.

The MEMPHIS WORLD remembers too well the ruthless tactics used by police officers in dealing with Negro offenders during the early days of this publication to let these current complaints go without voicing concern. Since 1948 Memphis has been remarkably free from such complaints. The swing back to the old police order of things when a cop felt he had to beat up a Negro or kill one to win his spurs at the station house—must not be allowed to happen. Yet such cases point toward this trend. We believe the Mayor and Police Commissioner will take a look into this situation.

Memphians Demand Probe

Minister Beaten By Dixie Cops

MEMPHIS—Police brutality has hit a new high here and tax payers are demanding that cops using hoodlum-like tactics be punished.

Latest victims:

1—The Rev. Dewitt Alcorn, politician, civic leader and a distributor for the Courier; in Collins Chapel Hospital last week nursing a badly bruised and bloodshot eye, result of a pummeling suffered at the hands of race-hating cops.

2—Hugh Rogers, laborer, kicked and beaten by arresting policemen; suffered "traumatic injury of both testicles."

What are the top city officials saying about the brutal attacks?

"A thorough investigation will be made of the charges," declared Police Chief Ed Reeves when informed of the policemen's attack on Rogers.

About the Rev. Mr. Alcorn, City Commissioner Armour said he ordered a complete investigation of the case but insisted that the minister "resisted arrest."

The Rev. Mr. Alcorn who has the ears of most city officials and is a leading figure in Democratic party circles here, denied resisting arrest and said he believes certain policemen have been out to get him for a long time.

He was arrested once before because lily-white cops disliked the idea of him selling the Courier in the Negro waiting room of a bus station here.

During a campaign election speech here several months ago in Court Square, policemen tried to force him off the premises because "this is a park for white folks."

The minister, robust and fearless, has won a reputation for standing up for his rights. While suffering the beating in a police car parked in an alley last week, the Rev. Mr. Alcorn was accused by the mobbing policemen of being a Communist, a complainer, and a member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

It is possible that he may lose his left eye as a result of the attack.

On several occasions, the minister said, policemen have taken his publications and either torn them or thrown them away.

He said he was arrested and beaten last week shortly after he berated another colored man for being afraid to answer policemen when they questioned him.

Negro ministers here are known to be taking a firm stand in behalf of the Rev. Mr. Alcorn.

Rogers' white employer protested to police officials after he had been attacked.

Memphis Police Beat Prominent Clergyman

Arrested in Bus Station; Called "Red" Who Would Change the South

MEMPHIS — The Rev. Dewitt T. Alcorn, prominent clergymen and civic leader, is confined to the Collins Chapel Hospital as the results of being beaten last Monday night by two members of the local police force.

Specialists are trying to save the sight in his left eye which was almost knocked out by the officers. The right eye was damaged. The clergyman, who often visited Washington and Baltimore, also suffered several stomach injuries.

The Rev. Mr. Alcorn and several other ministers were arrested about midnight as they sat in the cafeteria of the Greyhound Bus Station. The officers charged the minister with being a "Red and a welfare worker who is trying to change the pattern of the South."

Beaten in Alley

Without formally charging him, the policemen then took him into a nearby alley and beat him unconscious. Later they carried him to headquarter where he was accused of resisting arrest.

After the action of the officer became known a delegation of church leaders attempted to see the Mayor, but was denied an audience. The delegation was headed by Dr. S. A. Owens, president of the State Baptist Convention.

Messages of sympathy and support have been received from Mordecia W. Johnson, Bishop W. Y. Bell, of Washington, and Bishop J. A. Hamlett, of Kansas City, Kan.

One of the officers who beat the Rev. Alcorn is known locally as "Hatchet Man." Recently he was tried for beating a woman who objected to his entering her home without a search warrant.

Bedside essage

From his hospital bed, the clergyman issued the following statement:

"I have no rancor, no hatred, while it is most cowardly and criminal act that officers of the law should assault one in the dark of midnite in an alley and I may have to go through life bereft of my sight and with my health impaired, I still insist I shall never hate.

If need be, I shall meander sightless down the road where the thorns of hatred grow and still believe that the brimroses of kindness will sometimes flourish. My ardor for justice will not be daunted.

Hate is an awful disease. But you dont hate one with leprosy or cancer. You heal them, and if they cannot be healed, you Quarantine then so they will not be a meanace to society.

Ballot Only Hope

My labor is based on the faith that the growing political health of the south will for its own protection isolate in the political pest house those with this morbid disease.

Without the intelligent use of the ballot there is no hope. Every preacher should let the hell after death alone long enough to help get the masses out of the hell they are in now.

Every non voter is a sinner. Our people can and must be enlightened. The intelligent use of the ballot backed by industry is the Road To Freedom."

U. S. Jury Indicts Texas Police Chief 3 Officers As Negro Dies From Beating

BEAUMONT, Tex., Sept. 11.—A U. S. Grand Jury here Tuesday indicted the Chief of Police of Orange, the assistant chief of police, and two policemen for the brutal beating of a Negro prisoner and depriving him of his constitutional rights.

The indictment charged that the four officers deprived Levi Dorsey, a 27-year-old Louisiana Negro, of his constitutional rights while he was confined in the Orange, Tex., city jail last February on a charge of burglary. The indictment also charges that while acting under the color of the law the four officers arrested and took into custody Levi Dorsey, and wilfully without cause, with a pistol, fists, clubs, leather strap, rubber hose, and weapons unknown to the Grand Jury, did beat, assault and abuse Levi Dorsey and expose him to severely cold weather, and refused and caused to be refused to him proper medical care and treatment.

On a second count the indictment also charged the four officers with conspiracy to violate Dorsey's constitutional rights.

The action of the grand jury came after an intensive F. B. I. investigation of the case ordered by the U. S. Department of Justice.

U. S. District Attorney Warren Moore said warrants had been issued for the four officers and they had agreed to surrender to the U. S. Commissioner at Beaumont Tuesday afternoon.

Bond was expected to be set when the four officers are arraigned before U. S. Judge Warren Sheehy, Wednesday.

The four officers named in the indictment are: Police Chief Alvin Keown, Assistant Chief Henry Stanfield, and Policemen O. A. Tolsom and George Powell.

Woman Allegedly Beaten By Deputies

HOUSTON — Mrs. Dorothy Johnson of 1606 Saulinier told Informers reporters last Friday that men in plain clothes and a uniform officer, all white, picked her up on the previous Thursday night and carried her first to their office and questioned her as to the whereabouts of Felogen Simon, who, at that time, was being sought in connection with the shooting of Deputy Sheriff Jeff Spencer and later took her out in a vacant vicinity and beat her when she held out that she knew nothing of the hunted man's location.

Mrs. Johnson, almost stricken in a terrified state, at first refused to tell of the incident, because, as she later explained, "they said that they would come back and take me out again if I told anybody."

"They beat me with a water hose", she said, sobbing, "kicked me, and slapped me too," she added.

Both of the frightened woman's hips were severely bruised and she could hardly swallow her food.

She was being kept under close watch by deputies from the Sheriff's Department and her phone was so fixed that the officers could listen in on the telephone conversations.

This was being done in case Simon would attempt to communicate with her through that means, the reporters were informed.

Sheriff C. V. Kern denied knowing anything about the alleged beating to Informer representatives.

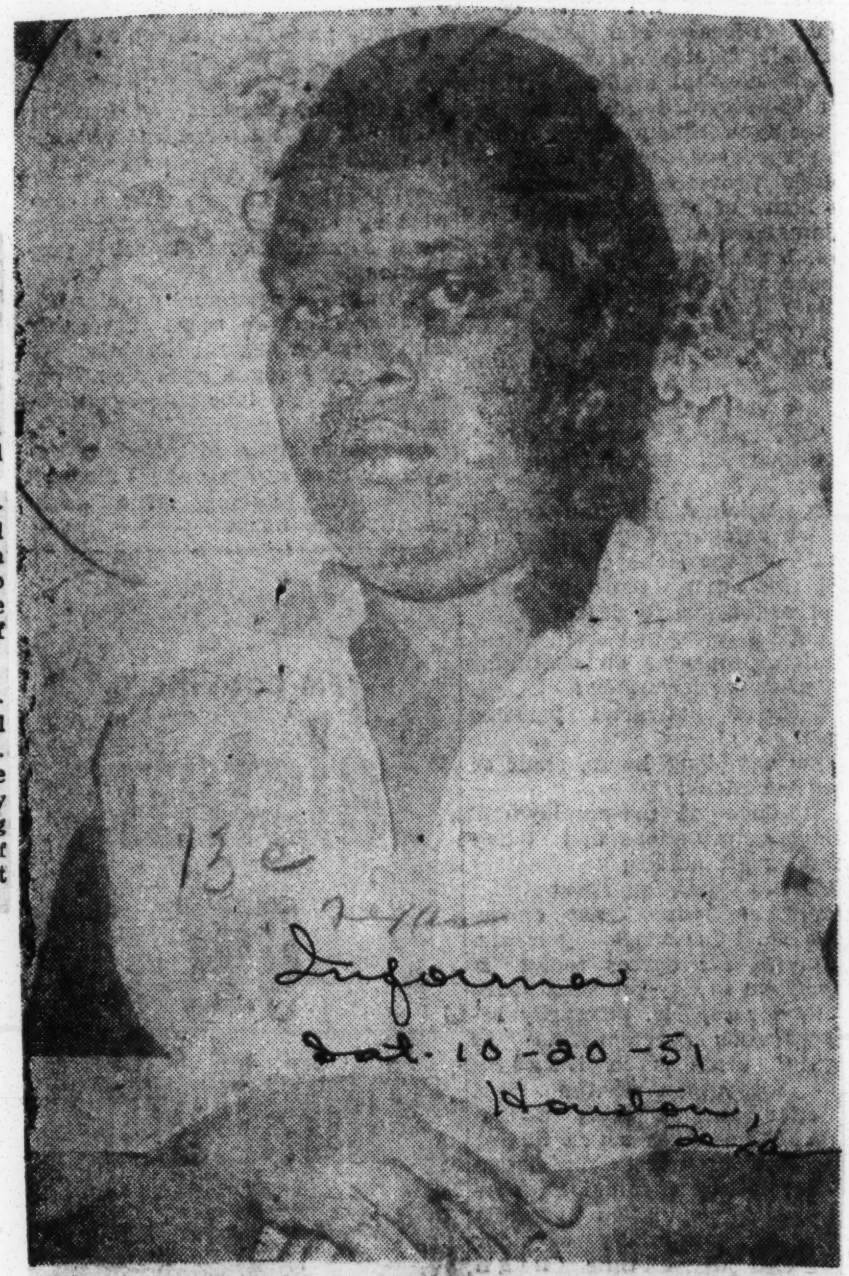
Mrs. Johnson said that she had lived with Simon for more than a year but knew nothing of his life outside of the house. She said that she never went anywhere with him as he always chose to go by himself where she was concerned. She described him as having "peculiar ways."

"How can you live with him a year and not know anything about him"? she said that the officers asked her. "I don't know anything about that man and that is the honest to God truth," she said.

Mrs. Johnson also stated that the men beat her in the stomach.

Mrs. Johnson was carried to a local physician Saturday night and again Monday. She was reported to be very sore Monday and also unable to sit or to walk in an upright position. According to the latest reports, she is unable to let her thighs touch because of the soreness.

Relatives of Mrs. Johnson reported the incident to the local branch of the NAACP and Mrs. C. V. Adair said Monday that the reports are being thoroughly investigated and steps are being taken toward identification of the men Mrs. Johnson said beat her.



MRS. DOROTHY JOHNSON

White Motorist Ignored Warning, Molested Women

2nd Norfolk Cop Falsely Accused of Assault Asks $25,000 Damages

NORFOLK — Paul J. Seymour, 27-year-old policeman who was suspended Saturday, July 14, after a white man accused him of beating and shooting at him, was returned to duty last Monday when fellow - officer, Charles A. Moore, accepted responsibility for the shooting.

Seymour was suspended pending investigation of charges by Lloyd Hicks, Chesapeake and Ohio railroad man, that Seymour beat him with his nightstick and fired bullets into his car.

Hicks said that he and his friend Robert Gann, also white were in the colored neighborhood at 5 a.m. because they had lost their way en route from Virginia Beach to the Newport News ferry.

A North Carolinian

Patrolman Seymour, a native of North Carolina has been on the Norfolk police force since 1949. He was charged with felonious shooting and assault. Two 32-calibre bullets had been removed from Hicks's car.

Officer Seymour had been arrested soon after the pre-dawn incident when Hicks returned to the scene with two white policemen who put their fellow officer under arrest on Hicks's charges.

Patrolman Moore, 23, who works a neighboring beat to Seymour's appeared before Police Justice Leonard H. Davis Monday and freed Seymour with his testimony.

He said that he shot at the car after repeatedly warning the driver, Hicks, to stay out of the colored section and after Hicks had run over his foot.

He said he first warned Hicks when he found them apparently molesting a colored woman. Later a cab driver reported to patrolman Moore that the white men were bothering another colored woman on Wide St. and for the second time he advised them to move on.

Caught Third Time

The third time he caught them following a woman on Chicazola St., and when he ordered them to stop the car they sped off and he fired three times at the tires.

After reporting the matter to two white policemen, Officer Moore said he went home and first learned of Patrolman Seymour's arrest from the morning paper. He immediately reported his responsibility for the shooting.

When Lance L. Underwood, Hicks' attorney, asked Patrolman Moore why he had hesitated to report the shooting Moore replied that the two white officers had advised him to wait and see if there would be any repercussions.

Prompt Reinstatement

Officer Seymour was promptly reinstated to duty as of the time of his suspension and patrolman Moore was suspended awaiting further investigation of the case.

Immediately after Monday's hearing Hicks was placed under arrest on patrolman Moore's charges of assault by running over his Moore's foot with the wheel of the car.

These charges were dismissed Tuesday in Police Court, but soon afterward patrolman Seymour filed a $25,000 false arrest suit against Hicks in Circuit Court.

He charged that the two felony warrants had caused him considerable humiliation and had injured his reputation.

On Thursday Chief of Police Amor L. Sims announced that patrolman Moore's suspension would last 10 days and that he was guilty of disobeying orders by failing to report immediately the discharging of firearms.

In the civil suit against Hicks, patrolman Seymour is represented by attorney Victor J. Ashe, who defended him in the criminal action.

Lawyer Victim Of Police Clubbing

William Davis Butts, 44, prominent lawyer of Newport News, Va., who has figured in a number of civil rights cases, was blackjacked by Chief of Police Robert Sawyer, the one-man police force of Roper, N.C., in that town Tuesday night of last week. Dr. Butts, holder of a Ph.D. in law, has spent the day appearing in a school consolidation case in the United States District Court in Washington, N. C.

Jim Crow In Ga. Prisons

(This is the last of a series of stories on brutality against Negroes in Georgia as revealed recently in a congressional inquiry.)

BY ALICE A. DUNNIGAN

WASHINGTON —(ANP)— Even the prisons in Georgia are segregated declared Clyde G. Brock, white labor organizer who was arrested in Dublin, Ga., for attempting to organize Negro workers at the Cordell Lumber Co.

Appearing before an investigation subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Labor and Public Welfare, Brock gave an account of prison conditions in Dublin.

The beans and bread were served to prisoners, he said, in rusty tin pans. Prisoners were forced to gobble the food down without the assistance of a knife, fork or spoon.

After each meal, each prisoner was required to wash his own pan in the only trough-available in the cell. This trough was used to vomit in by drunks who were thrown into the clink, he said, and was used for all other purpopses.

There was no hot water, no dish rags nor soap with which to wash the so-called dishes. They had to be cleaned by running cold water over them. These pans were pushed between bars at meal times and the food was poured into them.

Prisoners never had coffee unless they paid for it themselves. A few of them had their own coffee which they boiled on a hot plate and drank from tomato cans which had the tops cut off.

He described the jail as being dark, damp and dirty, stating that some of the prisoners who had been there as long as seven months said it had never been mopped since they had been there.

This is the condition under which the white prisoners are treated. He did not know how the Negroes fared as they were housed on the floor above the white prisoners.

"We couldn't see them up there," he said, "but we could hear them talking."

Ga. Prisons Negro Suits Stop Police Brutality In Richmond, Va.

Richmond, Va.—(ANP)— A $75,000 damage suit filed against Police Court Judge Carleton S. Jewett in the Federal district court involving a Negro plaintiff who charged she was subjected to "malicious and willful" acts because of her race, was dismissed last week at the request of her attorney.

Howard Carwile, her attorney, said afterwards that "a principle had been vindicated."

Carwile explained that prior to Miss Carter's case, Negro women even though charged only with a misdemeanor, were detained in the police "bull pen" before and after the trial. White women, however were housed upstairs in the care of a matron, no matter what their offense, he said.

Since the suit was filed, Carwile added, Police Court has practiced "democracy by debasing all the women, white and colored, and keeping them in the bull pen with the men.

The lawyer said his aim in the suit was to show that "the judge of a lower court may be sued." The point was maintained, he said, when Judge M. Ray Doubles held that if the plaintiff could prove the allegations the defendant would be liable.

U. S. Jury Indicts 4 Texas Policemen

ORANGE, Tex. (ANP) Police Chief Alvin Keown, his assistant, Henry Stanfield and two patrolmen, O. A. Folsom and George Powell, were indicted by a Federal grand jury last week for depriving Levi Dorsey, 27 , of his Constitutional rights.

The indictment alleged that the four officers, while Dorsey was confined in city jail here on a burglary charge last February, "acting under color of law,beat him with a pistol, fists, club leather strap, rubber hose and weapons unknown to the grand jury and denied

him medical treatment."

Dies Later in Hospital

Dorsey died in a Louisiana hospital soon after being released from jail. A second count accused the four officers of a conspiracy to violate Dorsey's rights following an intensive FBI investigation into the case, ordered by the Justice Department.

Federal District Attorney Warren Moore said warrants had been issued for the four officers and they had agreed to surrender voluntariiy before a U.S. commissioner at Beaumont. He added that they will be arraigned before Federal Judge Warren Sheehy.

Two Sentenced On Charges Of Beating Negro Prisoners

INDIANOLA, Miss—(SNS)— Two white men were sentenced to serve six months in jail and were fined $500 each in connection with the beating of four Negro prisoners. The two men, Deputy Sheriff Homer Sheffield and Charles R. Underwood, a "private detective" who had served time in another state, were accused of beating Jesse James, Jr., Amos Redmond, Jesse Davis and Will Galloway.

The four men confessed to the murder of Robert McKinney— who later was found to be alive and unharmed in another state. Upon the disclosure that the supposed murder victim was still alive, an investigation was made into the manner in which the four "confessions" were obtained.

The four prisoners testified that they were beaten by the two men until they confessed to the killing. McKinney had been reported missing by his employer shortly after having been seen in the company of the four suspects.

Later, after the confessions, he contacted his mother and told her that he was spending a few days wkith relatives in East St. Louis, Illinois.

GIRL'S BROTHER GETS SUSPECT:

Man Slain While He's Handcuffed To Sheriff

BULLETIN

F. L. McKinney, Commonwealth attorney of Halifax County, has called for a grand jury investigation into the fatal shooting of Thomas Harris.

Preliminary hearing for Harold Dixon, charged with the slaying, was held Wednesday morning. McKinney stated that he did not believe the State's anti-lynching law would apply in Harris's slaying.

HALIFAX CONTY, Va. — A brother saw the alleged attacker of his 15-year-old sister standing in the very spot where the incident reportedly occured and he "got mad."

Howard Dixon squeezed off one from his rifle that shattered the noonday silence of the woods.

Thomas Harris slumped. He didn't fall. He couldn't. He was handcuffed to one of two deputy sheriffs who had brought him back to the scene of the alleged attack.

Died on Back Seat

The deputies called to Sheriff Ed Tune who was behind them in the woods. They rushed Harris into Sheriff Tune's car and raced for the hospital. The 36-year-old man died on the back seat.

The 33-year-old brother, also a father of five children, who passed bullet-judgement, now faces trial himself, on a murder charge.

Sheriff Tune told the AFRO Harris was accused of attacking Dixon's sister on last Friday.

Married Man; Shot Girl

Harris, a married man, reportedly went to the Dixon farm, while the family was away and forced the girl to a spot in the woods where he allegedly attempted to criminally attack her, hit her in the head with the butt of a shotgun and shot her in the shoulder.

The child came home nude and screaming that she had been attacked, the sheriff said. Harris was arrested that night.

On Monday at noon, the sheriff said, he and two of his deputies took Harris back to the place in the woods in an attempt to find the girl's clothing.

Dixon Hid in Thicket

While there, Dixon stepped out of the thicket, and standing about 30 steps from the deputies, fired one shot, which crashed into Harris's chest, the sheriff said.

"The bullet went clean through him," Sheriff Tune told the AFRO.

Following the shooting, the officer said. Dixon fled through the woods. The deputy to whom Harris was handcuffed could not give chase.

Asked why he and the other deputy did not try to apprehend Dixon, Sherff Tune replied that they were too busy trying to save Harris.

Dixon Gave Up, Fled

After their unsuccessful effort to get Harris to a hospital before he died, the sheriff said, the law officers returned to the shooting scene and Dixon walked up and surrendered.

"We were standing there talking and I didn't talk too pleasant to him and he ran away again," the sheriff said.

However, this time, the sheriff said, the deputies fired at the fleeing man.

At approximately 6 p.m., Dixon surrendered again and was jailed

"I Just Got Mad"

The sheriff said that when he asked the brother why he shot Harris, his answer was: "I couldn't help it—I just got mad."

Queried about Dixon's normal behavior, Sheriff Tune said that Dixon was subject to spells of temper.

"Once he got mad at a man," the sheriff recalled, "and stole a man's hogs."

Dixon's sister who was allegedly attacked, is one of several sisters, the sheriff said.

The Sheriff said that Harris is a native of Charlotte County, Va. He reportedly came to Halifax with his family about one year ago.

Widow Files Suit

Mrs. Louise Harris, widow of Thomas Harris, filed a $15,000 damage suit against Harold Dixon, Wednesday, in the ambush rifle-slaying of her husband. The suit was filed in behalf of herself and her two children ages 3 and 5.

On the same day, Dixon was released under $3,000 bail and ordered held for the grand jury, following a preliminary hearing in the murder of Harris.

Testimony was that the Dixon family had been informed by police that Harris would be returned to the scene of his alleged attack on one of the young Dixon girls and a deputy sheriff had warned Sheriff Tune that "it might be dangerous."

Man Dies in Jail; Police Say He Fell; Hint Foul Play

Father of Six Suffers Head and Back Injuries; News of Death Shocks Wife

RICHMOND

While an official report of police attributes the death of Thomas Morgan, 42, of 1126 N. Sixth St., to a fall on some concrete at city jail, a story has persisted here since Monday that he was the victim of police brutality.

The police report on the death does not give any details as to the nature of the man's fall at the jail or what he was doing at the time; the distance from which he fell or whether he was in the jail proper or outside in the yard at the time of the fatal fall.

The report, prepared by investigating detectives, states that the man, father of six children, according to reliable reports, suffered injuries to his head and back in a fall at the jail about 1 p.m. Saturday and an ambulance physician was called to treat him.

Dismissed From Hospital, Dies

It adds that he was carried to St. Philip Hospital in the ambulance, treated by Dr. Kopp, and returned to the jail at 4:20 p.m. The prisoner, held on a misdemeanor count, according to the report, died at 4:45 p.m., 25 minutes after being brought back from the hospital.

Asked to comment on the man's death less than a half hour after he was dismissed at the hospital and returned to the jail, medical men here told the AFRO that the victim was undoubtedly dying when he was taken out of the hospital for the return trip to jail.

The police report added that the body was taken to the city morgue by a vehicle from the Scott funeral parlor and that the wife, Mrs. Corinne Morgan, "had an epileptic fit when informed of this (her husband's death)."

She was not told at that time of the whereabouts of the body, the report concluded.

The body had been assigned to the J. L. Moss funeral home on N. First St., Tuesday.

AFRO Called "Radical"

While this story was being prepared, the AFRO editor's attention was called to an editorial in a local white daily which attacked the AFRO as being "the Radical Negro Press" which it said "seems determined to seize upon any overt act to stir up racial prejudice and to foment discord."

The daily's editorial had reference to the alleged brutal attack on William C. Crocket, whose eye was practically beaten out by Officer J. L. Wormley, white mounted policeman, about which the white dailies had not carried one line.

The editorial continues:

"Police Chief Garton has ordered a full investigation of the Crockett case. In fairness to the officer, who has been pilloried in the local N—o newspaper ('Cop Beats Sick Man'), this investigation should inquire carefully into the provocation which may have been extreme.

"Unfortunate Accident"

"The indications are that the matter was an unfortunate accident, and nothing more. But if the evidence indicates deliberate brutality, then the fact should be made clear, if it has not been made sufficiently clear already, that Richmond will not countenance police brutality.

"And in any event, the Crockett case may provide a regrettable opportunity to emphasize that the responsibility never has been heavier on Richmond police to see that such accidents do not happen."

Reports reaching the AFRO from unimpeachable sources indicate that the local dailies have been angry at the Richmond AFRO ever since its expose of their failure and refusal to publish fair and accurate accounts in the cases of the seven Martinsville men.

The AFRO bared in its news columns the fact that the local dailies had in their hands information showing that all of the seven men executed never did confess their guilt; that some who confessed charged that the confessions were forced.

Put Dailies on Spot

It also revealed that the dailies could have "scooped" it on the story about the men asking for a lie detector test and the governor's refusal to even talk with ministers who were spiritual advisers to the men, who sought to inform him of the doomed men's plea for the lie detector test.

The AFRO was unable to get enough copies of the paper in the city that week to supply the demand, many thousands of white readers purchasing the paper because they were unable to get the facts from their daily newspapers, they told the editor.

Apparently, these fairminded white citizens and their friends, after learning that their daily papers let them down, are beginning to bring pressure to bear upon the two dailies in an attempt to force them to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth.

Investigate Beating By Virginia Cop

RICHMOND, Va.—Police Chief O. D. Garton has ordered a full investigation in the beating of a 37-year-old Negro by White policeman, J. L. Wormley.

On Feb. 17, Wormley went to Fifth and Marshall streets to arrest William C. Crockett, of North Eighth st., on a charge of disorderly conduct. The two argued and finally Wormley hit Crockett on the head with his nightstick. Crockett's skull was fractured in three places and a physician reported that unless a mass of blood in the socket of his right eye is absorbed there is "a very good chance" that Crockett will lose his vision in that eye.

Crockett is still in a hospital and his physician said he will have to stay there for an indefinite period.

Man Beaten by Officer Is Fined $5

Warrant for Arrest of Attacker Refused

MAY LOSE EYE

Wife Dies in Hospital Unaware of Incident

RICHMOND

William E. Crockett, 39, of Ellerson, Va., victim of a police beating with a nightstick here Feb. 17 last and a hospital patient since then, was fined $5 on a disorderly count in police court Tuesday, but a warrant for the officer's arrest was refused.

The case was heard in police court Tuesday morning before Justice Carleton E. Jewett, who fined Crockett and denied a motion by Crockett's counsel, Oliver W. Hill, that Officer J. L. Wormley, who administered the beating, be arrested on an assault charge.

Officer Wormley testified that he called to Crockett after he saw him go into an alley and stop beside the wall of a building. It was on that accusation that the disorder count was placed against Crockett.

Mr. Hill, who noted an appeal for his client, indicated to the AFRO after the hearing that he would not seek a warrant for the officer's arrest due to the attitude of Justice Jewett, who would be called upon to try the charges.

Jewett Bares Attitude

Mr. Hill pointed out that the Justice's action in refusing to issue a bench warrant for the officer's arrest was a clear indication that he would dismiss the charges when a police court hearing is held on a warrant issued by any other magistrate.

When it was suggested that the officer could be brought before the court by asking for a grand jury indictment against him, thus bypassing the police court, Mr. Hill agreed that this "might be the plausible thing to do."

The lawyer did not commit himself, however, on whether or not that course would be pursued, but legal authorities here assert that it is the only course left open by which the policeman may be brought before the bar of justice.

Right Eye "Knocked Out"

Mr. Crockett had his right eye "knocked out" by Officer Wormley and his head fractured in three places while on the street in the Sixth St. Market area.

He was here on a visit to his wife who was then in St. Philip Hospital critically ill. He may yet lose the eye.

After being beaten by the mounted policeman—seated on his horse during the altercation — Crockett was taken from the street, placed in a patrol wagon and carried first to a police station, finally landing in St. Philip, where his wife lay ill.

About a week after he was carried to the hospital, his wife — whom he was unable to visit because of his own condition, although they were patients in the same institution—died and was buried without ever learning of her husband's misfortune.

Never Saw Wife Again

Crockett, who never saw his wife again following the beating, is the father of three children, two girls, 17 and 12 years old respectively, and a boy, 4. He had formerly lived here where he has relatives and had a clean police record, according to reports.

When the officer called to him, Mr. Crockett walked over to where the policeman was seated astride his horse and protested that he had "not done anything."

But the officer grabbed for his coat collar, missed, then struck him a backhanded blow with the nightstick.

Minister on Scene

Knocked unconscious by the blow the man fell to the street, "bleeding like a hog," according to witnesses. An ambulance was called, but a police patrol reached the scene first, so Crockett was shoved into it, carried to Second station, later to the hospital.

The Rev. Robert S. Anderson, who arrived on the scene a few seconds following the incident, was preparing to carry the victim to the hospital in his auto when the patrol wagon arrived and officers pressed it into service as an ambulance.

Va. Policeman Beats Sick Man, Knocks Eye Out With Nightstick

Afro-American Balto., Md. Date 3-3-51

Citizens Aroused over Cop Brutality

RICHMOND

Three bones broken in his head as the result of being struck in the face with a nightstick by a mounted policeman, William C. Crockett, 39, of Ellerson, Va., is under treatment in St. Philip Hospital.

Major force of the blow fell across the victim's right eye, which was knocked out of its socket and was dangling as the man fell to the ground, according to eyewitnesses. They said with one accord that the policeman "knocked his eye out."

13e Va

Mr. Crockett, father of two girls, 17 and 12, and a boy, 4, was reportedly struck in the face with the weapon by Officer J. L. Wormerly, white, of 2406 Courtland St., after he emerged from a lunchroom in the 400 block N. Sixth Street, about 1:30 p.m. Feb. 17.

He was reportedly in the city to visit his wife, Mrs. Lillie Crockett, a patient on the critical list in St. Philip Hospital, and was himself ill at the time. Bystanders expressed the belief that the officer thought the man was drunk and called to him as he left the lunchroom.

When Mr. Crockett walked over to where the officer was seated astride his horse, he protested to the policeman that he had not "done anything." The officer grabbed for Crockett's coat collar, missed, then struck him a backhanded blow with the nightstick.

Knocked unconscious by the blow the man fell to the street, "bleeding like a hog," according to witnesses. An ambulance was called, but a police patrol reached the scene first, so the man was shoved into it and carried to the hospital.

According to the Rev. Robert S. Anderson, who arrived on the scene a few seconds following the incident, he was preparing to carry the victim to the hospital in his auto when the patrol wagon arrived and officers ordered it to substitute for the ambulance.

"First One Hit in 2 Years"

When persons of both races who witnessed the attack on the man by the policeman began to censure him for his "brutal" actions, the officer asserted, "He's the first one I've hit in two years. I'm sorry."

Col. O. D. Garton, chief of police, promised the AFRO Monday morning that a thorough investigation of the incident would be made by his department. No mention of the attack had been made in the daily press up to a late hour on Tuesday.

The man's family has consulted an attorney, with the intention of possible civil action against the officer, it is reported. Members of the legal staff of the NAACP also are studying the case for possible action of some sort, it was learned on Tuesday.

Mr. Crockett has a sister, Mrs. Maggie Thompson, living at 1008 N. Eighth St. He formerly lived at that address here before his wife became ill, after which he moved to Ellerson with his wife and three children to make his home with his mother.

Beaten Brutally by Policeman

13e Va

Afro-American Balto. Md. 3-3-51

William Crockett, shown in bed at St. Philip Hospital, Richmond, where he is recovering from injuries inflicted by a mounted policeman. He may lose sight of his right eye as a result of the injury. Any and all persons—colored or white—who witnessed the attack should get in touch with the Rev. Robert S. Anderson by calling 2-2131 or 5-1044. The case is being studied by NAACP attorneys and Chief of Police O. D Garton has promised a thorough investigation.

Virginia Supreme Court Denounces Negro Killing

STAUNTON, Va.— (ANP)— The Virginia State Supreme Court of Appeals held here last week that an Emporia policemen acted unlawfully in shooting and killing a man who vigorously resisted arrest.

The tribunal's opinion, written by Justice Willis D. Miller, noted the limitations that are put on police authority, particularly beyond the limits of the municipality.

The court held that Officer Hoe Ben Bradley was beyond his legal domain when he shot and killed Solomon Perry Banks on June 5, 1948, following a wild automobile chase.

The court maintained that Banks was within his legal rights to protect himself from seizure. It reversed the decision of the Greenville Circuit Court which found the slaying of the Negro was a justifiable homicide in self defense.

Banks' widow sought recovery from the policeman for the "wrongful death" of her husband, but the trial court denied the recovery However, in reversing this action, the Supreme Court ordered a new trial.

According to reports during the trial, it was revealed that Emporia police had been ordered to check closely into suspicious vehicles after a series of robberies in the town. Bradley and another officer in a prowl car sought to question Banks and another Negro, Andrew Frazier, who were driving in a large sedan. They fled in the car and a wild chase ensued during which the sedan got stuck in a ditch.

Though Frazier readily submitted to arrest, Banks refused to leave the car and grappled with the officer. Bradley sought to subdue him with a black jack, and after this failed, to snap handcuffs on Banks. Banks withdrew and did not respond to a halt. The policeman claimed that it looked as if he was reaching for something in his hip pocket, and he pulled his own gun and fired. Banks, however, was unarmed.

Justice Miller, in his delivery of the court's opinion, noted that state laws specifically limit the arresting power of a town police officer to no more than one mile beyond the corporate limits. The shooting was approximately two miles from Emporia.

Widow Of Slain Halifax Farmer Sues For $15,000

HALIFAX, Va. — Louise Harris, widow of Thomas Harris who was allegedly slain while in custody of the police by Harold Dixon, filed suit for $15,000 damages against Dixon last week.

The suit, filed in the name of Mrs. Harris and her two small children, aged three and five, charges that Dixon killed her husband wrongfully.

HARRIS, HALIFAX county farmer, was shot to death Monday, Dec. 3. Dixon is awaiting grand jury action on a charge of murder. He is free under $3,000 bond.

Harris was slain as he accompanied officers to the place where it was charged, he attempted to rape Dixon's 15-year-old sister and feloniously shot her in the shoulder with a rifle.

Officers testified at a hearing for Dixon that they were returning to the area in search for the girl's clothing.

THE STATE CHARGES that Dixon shot Harris to death with his rifle as the accused man proceeded with the police.

Cross-examination at the hearing produced testimony that the Dixon family had been told by police that it was planned to take Harris to the scene of the alleged rape attempt. Deputy Sheriff John Hatcher testified he warned County Sheriff J. A. Tune not to carry Harris on the trip because "it might be dangerous."

Dixon has pleaded not guilty to the fatal shooting.

Storebreaker Shot by Officer In Scuffle After Being Trapped

A Negro storebreaker was shot and killed early yesterday by Patrolman E. W. Mitchell, who said the man attacked him with a knife after fleeing from a service station robbery at Second and Marshall Streets.

Mitchell, a Negro patrolman attached to First Precinct Station, said he and Officer J. W. Vann surprised two men in the act of robbing the Quality Service Station at 412 North Second St. about 2:20 A. M.

The dead man later was identified as William Manning, Jr., whose address was listed as the Appollo Hotel.

Police Arrest Man

A short time after the shooting, police arrested William R. Harris, of the first block East Canal St., and charged him with breaking into the service station with Manning.

The two officers reported they were walking their beat when they noticed a light in the office of the station.

Vann said he went to the rear of the building and saw Manning in the act of breaking into a small vending machine and Harris standing near by.

He said Mitchell was guarding the front of the building. Vann said he told the two men in the station to come out "with their hands in the air."

Vann said they started to the rear door, where they had gained entrance, and then darted behind a partition out of sight.

Run Out of Building

Mitchell said the men came running out the front of the building a few seconds later. As the patrolman tried to grab Manning, the latter took out a long knife and "slashed at me several times."

The patrolman said he shot the man to keep him from leaving the scene.

Police Chief O. D. Garton said Manning was shot just over the left eye, and was killed instantly.

The chief said six $1 bills, 302 pennies and a nickel were found in Manning's pocket. He said the vending machine, which was being rifled at the time the two officers discovered the intruders, was a penny machine.

Harris was picked up by Policemen A. C. Lindsey and A. S. Holloway about 30 minutes later sitting in a near-by restaurant. Vann identified him as being in the service station with Manning.

Harris admitted that he had been to the penitentiary three times, but denied any connection with the break-in.

Chief Garton said no charges will be brought against Mitchell.

Patrolman E. W. Mitchell
Shoots Storebreaker

Alabama's Sad Prison Record

One of Alabama's journalistic mysteries is the way Montgomery's daily newspapers, while condemning everything else in Governor Folsom's administration, yet find it possible to praise the record of his prison administrator, Frank A. Boswell.

Mr. Boswell issued a 16-page booklet of "Achievements" this week, and the *Alabama Journal* promptly declared that "he has made a record of which he can be proud."

Proud? Mr. Boswell's administration of Alabama prisons will go down in the record as the greatest stench since Alabama prisoners were taken out of coal mine servitude by Governor Thomas E. Kilby.

Mr. Boswell's destruction of the system of classification of prisoners; his resurrection of the lash as a casual method of control, without even the approval of a higher authority; his assumption of authority to release prisoners at will; his continuance of the system of "lending out" prisoners to work for favored citizens of influence; his misapprehension that the prisoners are simply another business, to be used for making political friends, and perhaps money for the state, rather than for the humane disciplining of erring men and women and for their possible reclamation—all this, we say, has created an odor that extends far beyond the borders of Alabama and even to foreign countries, there to aid the propaganda of our enemies.

Mr. Boswell reports that when he goes out of office in January he will see to it that "the barns and sheds are filled... there will be cattle and hogs that can be slaughtered... The All-Mighty being my helper, there will be a cash balance of $150,000 to $200,00 available."

Nobody can fail to appreciate such a cash balance as Mr. Boswell points to, but it is as nothing compared to the costs in human values and public confidence for which Mr. Boswell's administration has been responsible. The public is generally agreed that the toughest clean-up job for Governor-elect Gordon Persons is the prison system. His choice of administrator has not been announced as yet. It may well be crucial in the success or failure of his work as governor.

7 Negro Leaders Of Riot at Angola Put in Solitary

ANGOLA, La. — (AP) — Seven Negro convicts, ringleaders of an Easter riot at the Louisiana State Penitentiary, were locked in solitary confinement in windowless dungeons Monday.

The presence of submachine guns halted the outbreak after a white foreman and three trusty guards were attacked. One guard was cut in the face with a broken glass jar.

Sheriff T. H. Martin of West Feliciana parish (county), enforcement officer for the prison, said the riot began at breakfast time. A few of the 500 Negroes began seizing all bread available to draw attention of the guards. Then plates and tableware were thrown at the guards.

Cobb Germany, a white foreman in charge, and the guards fled when the meat cleavers were seized from the kitchen.

Warden Rudolph Easterly, seven state policemen, several prison captains and Martin raced to the camp with guns and seized those they identified as the ringleaders. Martin said the seven men would be charged with rioting.

The prison has been the center of an investigation by a public committee named by Gov. Earl Long after 37 convicts slashed their heel tendons in a protest over "brutality."

Some ringleaders of the riot were interviewed by committeemen last week. Easterly and Martin said the riot was the result of agitation by the ringleaders who became bold after publicity given to the governor's investigation.

Easterly said he learned from camp talk that the riot had been brewing for two or three days.

"We had to put the ringleaders in solitary," he added. "If we didn't, they would be like a drop of blueing in a tub of water."

Camp Superintendent Fired For Beating Negro Convicts

A superintendent of a convict road camp has been fired for beating three Negro prisoners with a wooden stick, it was disclosed Thursday.

State Highway Director Guerry Pruett, whose department supervises the road camps, announced the dismissal of Sam Key as warden of Camp Scottsboro in North Alabama.

Pruett said he discharged Key following an investigation requested by Prison Director J. M. McCullough. Beating of convicts was outlawed by Gov. Gordon Persons several months ago when he abolished the use of the lash in prison.

A written report by State Investigator R. A. Troupe said Key struck convicts Earnest Taylor and Ezzie Lawson with a three-foot hickory stick which measured one and an eighth inches in diameter at the small end.

The superintendent also beat another prisoner, O. C. Allen, with a walking stick, the investigator reported.

Key admitted hitting Taylor, the investigator's written report related, but said he did so only after the Negro had refused to work and had grabbed him.

The superintendent's version of the incident, Troupe said, was this:

Taylor declined to do the work assigned to him although a doctor had pronounced him fit to perform the labor. Key "thinks" he whipped the Negro once across the buttocks and the prisoner whirled and grabbed him.

How many times Key struck the Negro again he didn't remember, the report said, but it was "enough to stop him."

Troupe quoted Taylor as saying he protested he was unable to work and that the superintendent shouted at him, "You are going to work. You are going to work. . . I ought to kill you."

Quotes Steward

The report further quoted W. G. Atkins, camp steward, as saying the Negro was "bloody as a hog" and that blood covered an area about four feet square on the floor of the camp office after the beating.

Troupe said he found three gashes on Taylor's head measuring from two and a fourth inches to a half inch, along with other injuries including a possible wrist fracture.

The investigator said he learned that when Taylor ran from the room, Key followed him and when Ezzie Lawson 'got in the way, whacked him across the buttocks. Lawson, who had recently been operated on for rupture, "grabbed his stomach and ran," the report added.

On another occasion, Troupe reported, the superintendent beat O. C. Allen after the prisoner had a fight with a fellow inmate. Allen was quoted as saying Key struck him five or six times with a walking stick, but Guard Capt. Shird Carter gave the number as seven or eight.

Troupe's report said another guard, J. A. Paradise, complained to him that conditions at the camp at times were "unbearable," and that Key had told him he would lose his job if he talked.

Also, the investigator said, Jackson County Probate Judge J. W. Stuart told him guards had come to him from time to time protesting about conditions at the camp and asking his help.

Key, an employe of the highway department for 20 years, had been superintendent at Camp Scottsboro a year.

Convict Camp Boss Is Fired For Whipping 3 With Stick

Beatings At Scottsboro Compound Bared— Use Of 'Lash' Abolished By Governor

Post - Herald
Aug. 8-10-51

MONTGOMERY, Aug. 9 (AP)—A convict road camp superintendent has been fired for beating three Negro prisoners with a wooden stick, it was disclosed today.

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'Bloody As Hog'

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On another occasion, Troupe re-

Doomed Prisoner

3 Authors Write Wells' Life Story

SAN FRANCISCO—The life history of Wesley Robert Wells, Negro inmate of San Quentin's death row, is now being written by three San Francisco authors interested in the victim of jim-crow injustice, Steve Murdock, Buddy Green and Emerson Street, it was reported this week by the Civil Rights Congress, which is conducting Wells' appeal for mass support.

The CRC is also planning a delegation visit to William McGee, director of prisons for California, to protest San Quentin Warden Clinton Duffy's treatment of Wells in denying the prisoner receipt of letters and Christmas cards from persons who have been corresponding with him for several months prior to the warden's edict.

18f 1951

Georgia

SHERIFF WANTED $1,750?

Forced to Confess
Ga. Prisoner Says

MACON, Ga.—A 21-year-old man who charged that a rural sheriff beat and threatended to kill him to get a confession, called witnesses at his murder trial here who testified he was 160 miles away when the crime was committed.

John E. Denson of neighboring Twiggs County said Sheriff Earl Hamrick came to Macon, arrested him in the bus station here, then took him back to the little town of Jeffersonville and forced him to falsely confess the murder of Mrs. R. O. Sanders, white.

Judge Mallory C. Atkinson declared a mistrial in the case in Bibb Superior Court when Solicitor General Charles H. Garrett, who was conducting the prosecution, was killed by a hit-and-run driver at the end of the trial's third day.

Will Be Tried Next Month

Denson probably will be tried again May 21 at the next criminal term.

Defense Attorney Thomas W. Johnson called witnesses who said Denson was released from a prison term at Chitman, Ga., 160 miles south of here, on Aug. 6 1950 and worked on farms near there until Sept. 23 a week after the crime was committed in Macon.

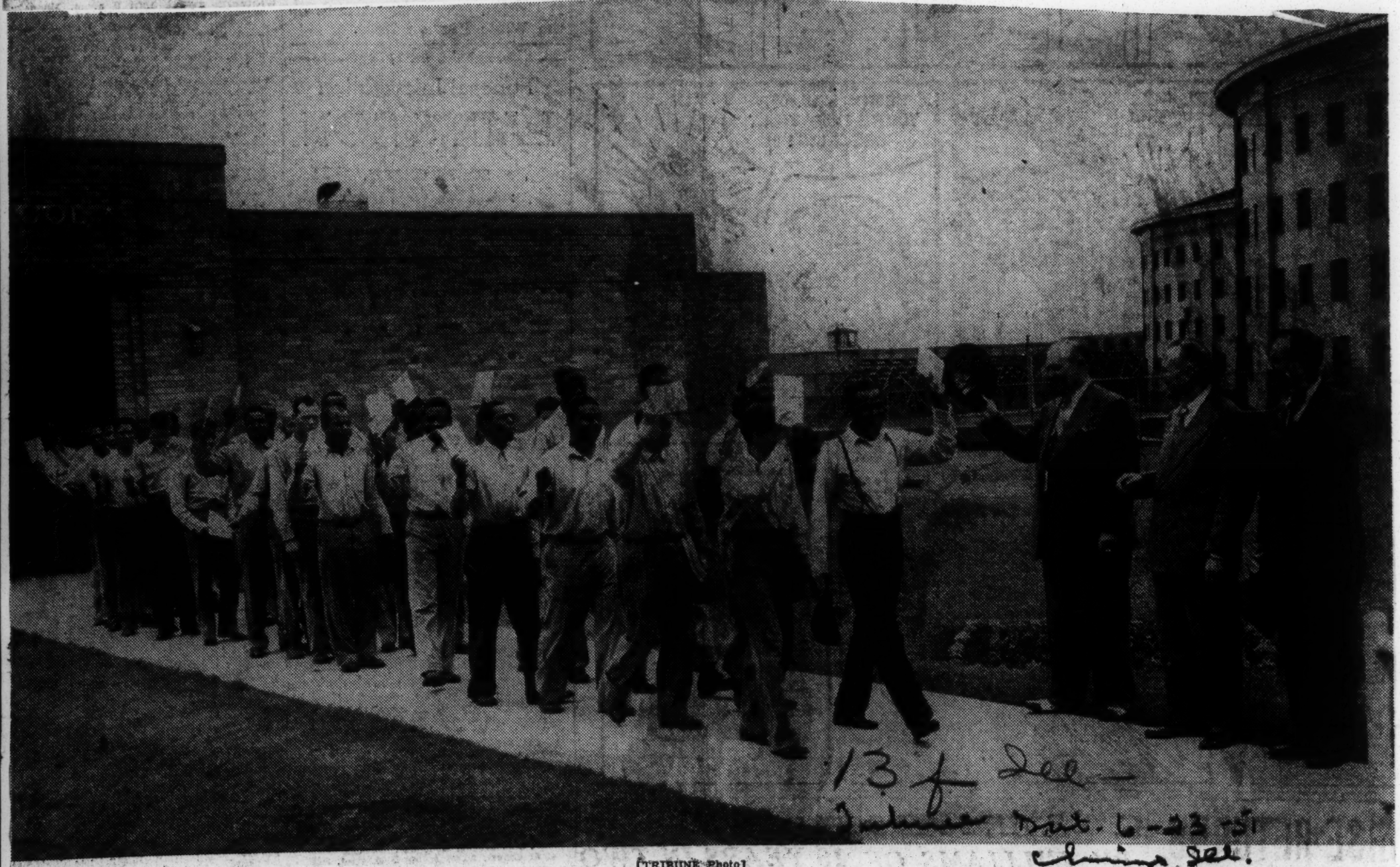
J. F. Sutton, a white farmer, testified that Denson was picking cotton for him near the Florida border from "a little after sunup till noon" on Sept. 16, the day Mrs. Sanders was killed.

Says Sheriff Wanted Reward

Bibb County Sheriff E. Julian Peacock and other officers said Denson signed a confession and reenacted every detail of the crime after Hamrick turned him over to them. Hamrick denied the beating and threat charges of Denson.

Denson said Hamrick wanted to collect a $1750 reward for the arrest and conviction of Mrs. Sanders' killer. He said the Twiggs sheriff has a reputation among colored people for "unmercifully" mistreating them.

Stateville Prisoners Get Diplomas—



[TRIBUNE Photo]

Elementary school graduates among prisoners at Stateville prison waving diplomas as they marched from school building yesterday. At right are Warden Joseph Ragen, D. L. Davies, prison education superintendent, and Louis F. Bottino, Will county schools superintendent.

13f Lee—
Juvenile Dist. 6-23-51
Chicago, Ill.

RECORDS IN NEW ORLEANS PRISON SHOW INSTITUTION IS "SEWER OF DEGRADATION," NURSE CHARGES

Beach Dispatch

Beatings, Torture and Killings on Program Regularly Institution Files Show

MAY HAVE VIOLATED EIGHTH AND FOURTEENTH AMENDMENTS

(By James B. LaFourche)

NEW ORLEANS — (ANP) — Any attempt to whitewash the Angela prison brutality investigation has been frustrated by a check of the records which support in total the charge that the institution is a "sewer of degradation," as stated by a white hospital nurse now resigned.

Adding fuel to the already flaming inferno of unbelievable fiendishness existing at the "Big House" is a letter from a former Negro inmate, who, styles the institution as a "Devil's Island."

The informant, not afraid to mention his name, is John E. Norris, who writes the following letter: "I was surprised to learn that they had hired Clifford "Marse" Leake (He never hit anyone in 23 years), back as prison foreman. Because, he and his brother, along with the prison captain, were fired and run off the place (Angola), for the attempted murder of a prisoner by the name of Dewitt. And I could go on to name countless other crimes they committed, but you can check. It was in 1940.

"I was in a position to know what went on because, I was in complete charge of the prison hospital. I was committed to that institution at the age of 13, a second grade scholar and rose to become head of the hospital where, my clinical diagnosises were accepted by prison doctors.

"At the time, this prisoner was beat with a club and run over the guard line, and ordered to be killed by Leake. The man was brought to me with deep lacerations of the buttock and scalp, and part of his left arm shot off."

The letter further states that the maltreated victim recovered from the brutal attack, and is now living in St. Charles where, he operates a watch repair shop.

The former inmate states that he was in the penitentiary from 1925 to 1943, and plans to write a book on what he has seen at Angola.

Meanwhile, other files searched disclosed that one Capt. H. P. Ball, in charge of Camp "T", had been severely reprimanded by the superintendent for "using the bat" on a Negro prisoner.

Camp "N," where the worst Negro offenders are quartered, reveals no disclosures of brutal treatment to the inmates.

The files also show that one David Cheffie Jr., Monroe, La., serving term of nine years for two charges of simply burglary, was fatally wounded Sept. 10, 1949, later dying in the Charity hospital at New Orleans. Prison reports show that Cheffie had been struck with a woodhook, in the hands of another inmate, L. B. Lavender, which resulted in his head being laid open.

The daily newspaper account of the incident stated that the dead Negro had been struck by a policeman at Angola, with a machete. The superintendent denied the statement, saying that Cheffie was not at Angola, but at St. Gabriel.

The Louisiana Anti-Crime association has asked the committee appointed by Gov. Earl K. Long, to investigate the latter incident and the rehiring of "Marse" Leake.

Officials of the LACA said that following the report of the committee to the governor, the justice department will be asked to conduct an investigation relative to violations of the Eight and Fourteenth amendments to the federal constitution.

LOUISIANA CONVICTS FOUND OUTSIDE OF PRISON WALLS WORKING FOR PRIVATE BUILDING OPERATOR

Beach Dispatch

Prisoners Say They Have Been Used to Paint Churches; Sheriff Defends Action in Matter

Pat. 1-18-51

STATUTES PROHIBIT PROGRAM IN VOGUE AT ANGOLA

13 f

By James B. Lafourche

BATON ROUGE, La. — (ANP) — Fifteen Negro convicts, all inmates of the Louisiana State Penitentiary located at Angola, are said to be engaged in working on a ballpark for whites, in St. Francisville, 30 miles distant from the prison.

Sheriff T. H. Martin, of West Feliciana parish defended the use of the Negroes employed, saying that the project was for the benefit of boys and girls in the district.

There are 27000 convicts, Negro and white, at Angola, but only the latter are said to have been engaged in this illegal operation.

Although a committee composed of more than 24 whites and two Negroes recently investigated Angola, and found it a "sewer of degration," escape, brutality, and illegal working of Negro prisoners continue, in spite of the findings which the committee disclosed to Gov. Earl K. Long.

Convict Labor Banned

During the committee investigation convicts told the inquisitors that many of their number were used to paint churches in and around St. Francisville.

The committe on hearing of this alleged violation, recommended flatly a prohibition on the use of convict labor on any private project.

Use of prison labor on any private project is forbidden under the State Constitution, Article III, Section 33.

This section permits leasing of convicts for work on public projects, but it further says:

"No convict sentenced to the state penitentiary shall ever be leased or hired to any person or persons, or corporation, private or public, or quasi-public, or board" except as provided for public bodies.

A supervisor in the ball park said that it was a city project, but Mayor Mumford Leaks stated "it is not a city or parish project."

It was disclosed that the park and stadium being worked by the Negro convicts are on private property, and that the sponsor of the project is the West Feliciana Parish Recreation and Athletic association.

From an undisputable source it was revealed that the above association receives funds from the operation of slot machines.

Newsmen seeking an interview with the warden, D. D. Bazer, were told:

"Reporters can't come in today."

When asked the possibility of talking to the "straw boss" over the phone, the reply was: "The warden says he doesn't want to talk to you."

Although no other phases of illegal use of Negro inmates at Angola was discussed, it was hinted by an informant that Negro parolees are at work on private farms, receiving as little as $12 per week, and working from sun up to sun down.

Some of these parolees it is said, were turned down by the parole board which met sometime ago, but private interests have been able to accomplish what merit could not.

Prison Cruelties To Negro Inmates At Angola Exposed

By James B. Lafourche.

Baton Rouge, La. (ANP) — With a political fued sizzling between Gov. Earl K. Long, and his attorney general, Bolivar E. Kemp, the latter's office released last week a report of unbelievable conditions existing at the Louisiana State penitentiary.

This is the result of an investigation of the State penitentiary made by an independent citizens' committee which had been appointed by the state executive.

The governor was riled when he learned that the attorney general had taken such steps and remarked:

"He (Kemp) had no right to make that investigation, but we let him make it."

The governor said that he expected the Kemp report "to be worse than it is because Kemp knew I was not going to endorse him for reelection."

However, some months ago when newsmen discovered Negro convicts working at the governor's private estate in Winn parish, Kemp handed down a ruling that Gov. Long was within his rights in using convict labor on his farm, since previous governors had done likewise.

The Kemp report showed that there is continued sporadic brutality, and that "20 per cent of the inmates commit homosexuality in one form or another." The inmates, it said, would like to see this type of prisoner punished.

An instance was cited in which a 17-year-old boy was forced to submit to other male inmates. The boy had been "mistakenly" sent to Angola. A similar incident happened to a Negro sent to Angola from New Orleans.

The report further disclosed that no steps have been taken to punish homosexuality, and apparently no punishment or studied means to prevent it have been taken.

Investigators learned that there had been a sharp decline in the drug traffic.

In reference to brutality, the report said, "If many of the free personnel were prosecuted for beating the prisoners, brutality would cease entirely."

A 20-point program was offered by Kemp suggesting rehabilitatoin, employment of more free personnel, vocational trade schools, segregation of first offenders and homosexuals, recreation and library facilities, change in furlough system, the use of paid guards and a modern gin and sugar refinery if cane is continued to be grown.

Kemp said there are many prisoners at Angola who have served many years there, but in whom no one has taken any interest although they deserve clemency. No application or recommendation of clemency has ever been made on their behalf, he said. They could be safely released, he said, avoiding the expense of their upkeep by the state.

Aside from working on the governor's private estate, Negro convicts were found working on a ball park at St. Francisville, and others had been paroled to plantation owners.

In handing down an opinion on convict labor Kemp said: "No convict sentenced to the state penitentiary shall ever be leased, or hired to any person or persons, or corporation, private or public, or board, save as herein authorized."

Could the above quoted have been responsible for the political feuding?

Found Guilty of Killing Negro GI

PHILADELPHIA — (ANP) — In one of the shortest trials in Philadelphia's court history, 27-year-old Odette Jackson, was convicted by a jury of first degree murder in connection with the butcher-knife murder of her husband Richard.

Mrs. Jackson, who was married to her mate six years ago in her native Nancy, France, told the court hair-raising stories of how Jackson beat her constantly during almost continual drunken sprees. She said that their three children had been taken from them because of his behavior.

The fatal stabbing which took place in their Germantown home on Aug. 10 climaxed a series of injurious battles which had sent the French woman to Germantown hospital 13 times between Jan. 7, 1947 and Aug. 4, 1951. These records were produced to the court by the hospital.

Neighbors testified that the couple was constantly fighting, and that she was always beaten badly.

Judge Joseph L. Kun told the jury that if he could work some kind of parole to send the woman back to France, he would do so. Asst. Dist. Atty. Colbert McClain, prosecuting attorney, did not press the first-degree murder charge.

Revolting Immoral Acts, Dope Traffic, Other Evils Bared

BATON ROUGE—The Louisiana State Penitentiary, at Angola, is a "sewer of degradation where dope traffic, homosexuality, and other evils prevail," Mrs. Mary Daugherty, registered nurse in the prison hospital, told a committee appointed by Gov. Earl K. Long to investigate conditions in the prison.

The probe was touched off when thirty-seven convicts slashed their heel tendons several weeks ago in protest against "brutality."

TWO NEGRO PROBERS

Governor Long appointed an all-white thirty-four-member committee in February when news of the tendons slashing appeared in newspapers. On March 6 he added two Negroes, John G. Lewis, prominent Masonic leader and the Governor's apointee as commissioner of the Louisiana Industrial School for Negro Youths, Scotlandville, La., and P. O. Wailes, newspaper agent, both of this city.

Their appointments followed by several days a request for Negro representation made by the Louisiana Anti-Crime Association, New Orleans, James B. LaFourche, chairman.

DESCRIBES HORRORS

Late last week the committee was holdnig hearings in Angola and listening to the testimony of prisoners and prison personnel. Several inmates testified that a prsion foreman, Clifford (Marse) Leake, had struck them. Two said other prison officials had beaten them. All three said they had been beaten regularly and "for nothing" with sticks and leather straps. They said they decided to injure themselves in order to "get out from under the stick."

Lake denied beating prisoners.

Dr. I. F. Littell, prison physician, told the committee he found no evidence of brutality, but added he did not have time to examine all the men who cut their heels.

CONDITIONS TERRIBLE

"Sex offenders, stool pigeons, homosexuals, degenerates of every type and psychopaths and neurotics are huddled in bedside companionship with new arrivals in huge dormitories that, as one inmate described to me, 'are filthy and stink like the hold of a slave ship.'

"On every side the eyes of the newcomer rests on scenes of abnormality.

"WARPED MINDS"

"I do not believe the heel-string cutters mutilated themselves simply to escape being whipped or beaten. These acts were the culmination of many things joined together to destroy their morale and warp their minds.

"Rehabilitation is the aim of imprisonment—not simply punishment. Angola is still in the dark ages, isolated and remote. Convicts gaininig their freedom stagger into a strange world outside, with which they cannot cope.

"Their only choice is to steal or beg, and many of them are proud men who would rather bear the stigma of thievery than the humiliation of begging."

Of nearly 7,000 men discharged from the penitentiary since she was employed, Mrs. Daughtry said she never saw one who was "as qualified to enter society as he was the day he was admitted—this is the true brutality of Angola."

SHOWS EVIDENCE

As evidence of dope trafficking and immorality, Mrs. Daughtry produced an envelope of heroin and pictures of nude women. She said she had bought them within the prison walls for five dollars.

The investigation committee adopted the policy of questioning each prisoner separtely. This decision was made following a warning by Sheriff Teddy Martin of West Feliciana Parish, who said, "Any prisoner who told the truth might not live forty-eight hours."

It has not been disclosed by prison officials how many of the 2,700 inmates are Negroes, nor if any of the thirty-seven tendons slashers were Negroes. However, a sub-committee was named Thursday to probe condiitons in the Negro camp.

Warden Rudolph Easterly said the penitentiary's seven camps could be straightened out by a single official in full charge and the "right kind of people helping him."

FORMER INMATE TALKS

In New Orleans, one former inmate told newsmen that brutal conditions exist and homosexuality flourishes in the Negro camp. He said that when young Negroes are admitted to the penitentiary, older convicts fight bitterly for the privelege of sleeping with the youngsters.

He also said that prisoners considered "unruly" are tied to a T-shaped cross with their arms up, their trouser legs are tied at the ankles, they are forced to drink a quart of epsom salts, and left there for forty-eight hours. This, he said, is in addition to whippings.

Inmate Murdered, Women Whipped By White Guards

BATON ROUGE—Sensational fast-breaking developments in the probe of the Louisiana State Penitentiary at Angola, La., by a committee appointed by Gov. Earl K. Long, involved Negroes last week. One former employe told how one murder in the prison had gone unpunished, and described how prisoners were beaten. Committee members investigating women's camps found a young Negro woman prisoner nursing her one-month-old baby girl.

The subcommittee on women's camps reported that of the 2,700 prisoners in Angola, there are eleven white and fifty-five Negro women.

WHIPPING DESCRIBED

One former prison guard captain testified, March 16, that he had "heard of a murder case" at the prison which went unpunished.

The witness said he had heard of an inmate who died in the prison hospital several years ago and that the man was said to have been murdered. The dead man suffered from heart trouble, he said, adding:

"I believe there was no inquest."

The same witness testified he had whipped prisoners himself and told of an incident in which a Negro inmate "brushed against my daughter."

The witness said he whipped the prisoner until, becoming exhausted, he was replaced by annother man who continued the whipping, then, "I gave it to him again."

YOUNGEST INMATE

Committee members found that the youngest inmate in the state prison is a Negro baby born in the prison hospital to a young woman serving a year's sentence.

The young mother reportedly told the committee she had received "excellent care and attention" through the birth of her child.

Dr. I. F. Littell, prison physician, said the mother arrived at the prison "about seven months pregnant." He said he did not know whether the mother and child would remain together during the balance of the mother's term.

WOMEN BEATEN

The subcommittee, headed by Miss Laurraine Goreau, managing editor of the Lafayette Daily Advertiser, said several Negro women prisoners described how they were whipped with a leather belt by a white male supervisor. One was a 17-year-old girl, she added.

"Some prisoners, out of the presence of prison officials, complained of food," subcommittee members said. "Some Negro women said while they received a lunch of red beans and rice, potatoes and milk, they had only bread and jelly for supper."

Miss Goreau said her group was told a woman prisoner while going through a receiving station about a year ago had been criminally assaulted.

The Angola probe was touched off several weeks ago by the disclosure that thirty-seven inmates had cut their heel tendons in protest against brutality.

500 Convicts Stage Easter Sunday Riot At La. Prison

By JAMES B. LaFOURCHE

BATON ROUGE, La.—(ANP)—Five hundred Negro convicts threw the Louisiana State penitentiary into a turmoil here Easter Sunday when a plate-throwing melee was touched off by seven prisoners who had earlier last week testified before an investigating committee that they were being subjected to brutal whippings by prison guards.

State troopers, armed with submachine guns and led by Sheriff T. H. Martin, enforcement officer at the prison, and Warden Rudolph Easterly, brought order out of chaos and clapped the seven ringleaders in the riot into solitary confinement.

Scene of the uprising was Camp "A" at Angola where the seven had earlier given testimony to an investigating committee appointed by Gov. Earl K. Long about the brutality of prison guards. During the confusion, a Negro trusty guard was cut in the face with a broken glass jar. A white foreman and five other Negro trustees were also attacked.

According to prison officials, the perpetrators of the flare-up had become bold after telling the governor's committee about the inhuman floggings of prisoners. At breakfast, the seven convicts scooped up all of the bread in an effort to attract attention of a guard. When they were warned about their conduct they cursed the guard. The white foreman, who answered the guard's call for assistance, was likewise cursed.

Following the warnings, the seven prisoners commenced throwing plates and table utensils, causing the guards to take over. When the prisoners grabbed up meat cleavers and chased the guards out of the dining room.

When the sheriff and the warden arrived at the scene, they were greeted with shouts of "You s..... o.....b". The sheriff, however, issued a warning that the disorder must cease immediately or he would order the guards and state troopers to fire upon all of the prisoners.

The other convicts, fearing a wholesale slaughter, shoved the seven ringleaders to the front. The seven were told by the sheriff, "I want you to know I'm the sheriff and we'll kill the first man who resists us."

The ringleaders were John Small 35, serving a sentence for burglary Davis Isiah, 36, a marijuana addict; Charles Vernon who, as a trusty guard serving a term for armed robbery, shot and killed a fellow convict, Manuel Watkins, 19, convicted of robbery; Willie Grant, 24, rape; Hamilton Israel, 33, burglary; and Henry Jones, serving a total of 36 years for attempted murder, aggravated escape and theft.

At the committee hearing, these prisoners told of the inhuman punishment meted out to them by a prison employe known as "Hose Pipe Papa," and to substantiate their charges, exhibited portions of their bodies bore black marks said to have been inflicted by a piece of black rubber hose.

Says Beatings Without Cause Routine at Prison

By James B. LaFourche

NEW ORLEANS. —(ANP)— Hot off the griddle, less than 48 hours after his release, a white convict who had slashed his heel to avoid brutal treatment at Angola, Louisiana penitentiary, told it all.

He first involved Capt. Clifford "Marse" Leake, who says he has not hit anyone in the 23 years he has been a guard because "no one ever resisted me." The former inmate said that the present warden told Leake to "use all the leather and hickory sticks on the boys you want to."

He further stated that all the convicts who testified to prison brutality before the committee which was appointed by Gov. Earl K. Long, have been stripped of their privileges.

The informant said that the routine at Angola included beatings without cause, prisoners eating from plates spattered with their own blood, and regular kickings and clubbings.

Before being released, the prisoner threatened to tell the New Orleans newspapers of the brutal treatment accorded prisoners in the "Big House," a threat which led to the authorities ordering him to proceed to Oklahoma, and never return to Louisiana.

Meanwhile, the nurse, Mrs. Mary Margaret Daughtry, who first exposed the unbelievable conditions existing at Angola, has resigned her position. She said that her statements relative to the "sewer of degradation" have been verified, and she will not remain to "be fired."

Negroes, too, have come in for their share of beatings. Records in the prison file show that H. P. Ball, captain at a Negro camp, was reprimanded "for using the bat (a leather strap) on a prisoner."

Supt. Rollo C. Lawrence, the man they want to replace, addressed a letter to "Marse" Leake, who never beat anyone in 23 years, conceded that the whipping might have been the only solution 'under the circumstances,' but the superintendent added a worded meaning that such punishment was not authorized.

"Marse" Leake, the former convict said, was working a gang on Monkey Island, a place filled with moccasins. A prisoner was bitten, and when he complained of the bite, Leake replied:

"The only way I'll believe you is if you die." That is one of the reasons the convict said, we cut our ankles. To get away from excessive brutality."

Former Negro Inmate Describes La. Prison As "Devil's Island"

BY JAMES B. LaFOURCHE

NEW ORLEANS — (ANP) — Any attempt to white-wash the Angela prison brutality investigation has been frustrated by a check of the records which support in total the charge that the institution is a "sewer of degradation," as stated by a white hospital nurse now resigned.

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The informant, not afraid to mention his name, is John E. Norris, who writes the following letter: "I was surprised to learn that they had hired Clifford "Marse" Leake (He never hit anyone in 23 years), back as prison foreman. Because, he and his brother, along with the prison captain, were fired and run off the place (Angela), for the attempted murder of a prisoner by the name of DeWitt. And I could go to name countless other crimes they committed, but you can check. It was in 1940.

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Meanwhile, other files searched disclosed that one Capt. H. P. Ball, in charge of Camp "I", had been severely reprimanded by the prison superintendent for "using the bat" on a Negro prisoner.

Camp "N" where the worst Negro offenders are quartered, reveals no disclosures of brutal treatment to the inmates.

The files also show that one David Cheffie Jr., Monroe, La., serving a term of nine years for two charges of simple burglary, was fatally wounded September 10, 1949, later dying in the Charity hospital at New Orleans, Prison reports show that Cheffie had been struck with a woodhook, in the hands of another inmate L. B. Lavender, which resulted in his head being laid open.

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The Louisiana Anti-Crime association has asked the committee appointed by Gov. Earl K. Long, to investigate the latter incident and the rehiring of "Marse" Leake.

Officials of the LACA said that following the report of the committee to the governor, the justice department will be asked to conduct an investigation relative to violations of the Eight and Fourteenth amendments to the federal constitution.

FLOGGING CASE IS SET FOR TRIAL THURSDAY

But Indianola Deputy, Private Detective May Not Actually Face Court

By CHICK HOSCH

Special to The Commercial Appeal

INDIANOLA, Miss., Sept. 17.—Trial of Homer Sheffield and C. R. Underwood, each indicted on four charges of assault and battery in the flogging of four Negro prisoners here last July, Monday was set for Thursday of this week with little likelihood that i will be held.

Sheffield appeared for arraignment in Circuit Court before Judge Arthur Jordan and entered a plea of not guilty, but Underwood, a self-styled private detective, was reported by his attorney as being in the Cook County jail in Chicago.

Probation Violator

Underwood, employed by Sunflower County Sheriff George S. Marshall to assist in the investigation of the disappearance of a Negro youth here July 15, later was extradited from Cleveland, Miss., by Illinois authorities as a probation violator.

His attorney, Bob Everett of Ruleville, reported that Underwood was willing to return to Mississippi to stand trial on charges of having beaten Jesse James Jr., Amos Redmond, Jesse Davis and Willie Galloway, but it appeared that the Illinois authorities would not release him for that purpose.

Underwood fought extradition to Illinois after his whereabouts in Cleveland became known through publicity given charges by the four Negroes that were beaten in an effort to make them confess to murdering the missing youth, Robert McKinley. All but Galloway confessed to the "slaying."

Victim Found Alive

McKinley later was found alive and well visiting relatives in East St. Louis, Ill. After their release, the Negroes charged that Underwood and Sheffield, a deputy sheriff at the time, had beat them with a leather strap to make them admit having murdered the missing youth.

A Sunflower County grand jury indicted them earlier this month on assault and battery charges, a misdemeanor, with the papers returnable in the current term of Circuit Court. Sheffield posted bond of $500 and iDstrict Attorney Stanny Sanders started extradition proceedings to return Underwood here.

However, it appears that Illinois authorities are not willing to have Underwood returned to face trial on a minor charge. He was returned to Chicago as a probation violator following conviction in an armed robbery.

Under the law, Sheffield can demand a continuance pending the appearance of Underwood as a material witness. Under the circumstances, there is little likelihood that either will come to trial unless Sheffield waives the right of a continuance and agrees to stand trial alone, or the Illinois officials reverse their present stand on the extradition.

GRAND JURY RETURNS ASSAULT INDICTMENTS IN FLOGGINGS AT JAIL

Ex-Deputy And Investigator Are Accused Of Beating Negro Prisoners

SHERIFF GETS CRITICISM

Former Officer Posts $500 Bond Pending Trial—Other Man Expected To Return From Chicago

By CHICK HOSCH

Special to The Commercial Appeal

INDIANOLA, Miss., Sept. 10.—A Sunflower County grand jury has indicted a former deputy sheriff and a private investigator on four separate charges of assault and battery as the aftermath of the flogging of four Negro prisoners here July 18.

The ex-deputy, Homer Sheffield, accepted service of the four processes against him and posted a bond of $500. The papers, filed Monday, are returnable in Circuit Court here next Monday.

Parole Violation Charged

The private detective, C. R. Underwood of Cleveland, Miss., who subsequently was extradited to Chicago on a charge of parole violation, is expected to accept service and return for arraignment before Judge Arthur Jordan.

Dist. Attv. Stanny Sanders communicated with Chicago officials last Friday following the return of true bills against Underwood and Sheffield. He said he expected Underwood to appear voluntarily with consent of the parole board in Chicago.

The indictments charge both Underwood and Sheffield with beating the four Negroes, Amos Redmond, Jesse James Jr., Jessie Davis and Willie Galloway, while they were in custody as officers investigated the disappearance three days earlier of Robert McKinney, a 17-year-old Negro youth.

Three Confessed Murder

All but Galloway "confessed" they had murdered McKinney, but the latter was later discovered alive and unharmed at the home of a relative in East St. Louis, Ill. All of the Negroes required medical treatment after their release from the County Jail, and Galloway spent about two weeks in a hospital at Ruleville.

The Grand Jury noted in its report that Sheriff George Smith Marshall, who had employed Underwood to assist in the investigation of the disappearance of McKinney, "was derelict in his duties in not supervising" the investigation himself.

The jury further noted, "If any misconduct took place during the course of the investigation, the sheriff, although not criminally responsible, has done a great disservice to the people of his county."

The eight indictments, made public Monday, were among 32 true bills returned. The others, in the light of records, apparently are involved cases of larceny and the like.

13f 1951

Tennessee

Tenn. Prison Inmates Must Wear Leg Chains

After Discussion

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. — The startling proof that medieval torture conditions still exist in Tennessee's penal institutions was bared even in a "white wash" tour by reporters of White Oak Workhouse near here.

10-20-51

The shackled prisoners told a group of reporters on Oct. 5 in the presence of their guards that they are kept in chains all of the time, even being forced to sleep in them.

The inspection and a later visit by the Hamilton County grand jury to the workhouse came after a recent presoner had made charges that prisoners there are subject to "torture and inhuman treatment."

Judge Urges Visit

County Judge Wilkes T. Thrasher head of the county institution, who insisted to the press, "I wouldn't allow any guard to mistreat anyone," challenged the reporters to visit the workhouse and "see things for yourselves."

Witnessing 14 Chained Men,

"Do they sleep with chains?" a reporter asked a guard.

"That's right," the guard replied: "The chains are bradded on and we can't keep putting them on and taking them off. Once they're on they stay."

"Do they hurt you boys?" the cluster of prisoners was asked.

"Yes sir. They sure do," the group chorused. "They rub your ankles and cause sores," one pointed out, adding, "My chains are so short I can hardly walk."

Brutal Beatings Denied

A guard explained: "You can judge the prisoner by the number of links on his chain. If he's mean, he wears a real short chain."

After an invitation from Judge Thrasher to "tell these newspapermen if anyone has ever beaten you or has been cruel to you," one six-footer privately confided:

"I have never been beatern, but I heard they used to beat them last year. I couldn't say for sure.

Jury's Report Guarded

Another prisoner serving an 11-month sentence said:

"They took them out at night and handcuffed them to a post sometimes.

The result of the grand jury's inspection of the workhouse has not been made public. The body was charged to make the investigation by Criminal Court Judge Raulston Schoolfield on Oct. 8.

Jail Death Shows Need For Medical Facilities

By MARTHA HUKSEY

NORFOLK—The death of a young woman in the city jail two weeks ago, before medical authorities could reach her, points out once again the need for a resident physician at the local jail, or for more adequate facilities for caring for sick inmates.

Miss Dazzell Bright, 25, of 146 Wilson Road, died in the city jail on Sunday, April 15, the same day she had been brought in. According to City Coroner C. B. J. MacDonald's report she died of deterioration of the brain due to an infectious disease.

In the official report on her death, A. Linwood Barrett, chief jailer, said that the city physician, Dr. W. L. K. Berkley, had been called twice, and by the time he arrived the girl had died. According to Mr. Barrett, the doctor was first called around 5 p. m. and informed that there was a sick patient among the inmates. There was no urgency about this call.

* * *

HOWEVER, ABOUT A half-hour later, the matron, Mrs. Ellen V. Morehead, called the doctor again as the woman was getting worse. The report states that Miss Bright died at 7:20 p. m. Informed of her death by telephone, Coroner McDonald ordered her body to be sent to Hale's Funeral Home. That was at 7:45, the jailer said. The physician arrived around 8 p.m.

According to City Sergeant Lee Lawler, a physician visits the jail daily and responds to special calls throughout the day.

However, a female prisoner who was present, whose identity is withheld for obvious reasons, has complained that the woman laid all day "on two mattresses on the cement floor and died from the lack of medical attention." She further stated that the girl's body was moved without the coroner pronouncing her dead.

* * *

"WE COLORED GIRLS had to inhale the fumes from her body without any form of disinfectant being used until the following day," she added.

Sgt. L. L. Jones, of the homicide squad, who investigated the case said Miss Bright, was arrested on charges of assault after becoming violent in her home. He explained that it was known at the time of her arrest that she was demented, and her removal to prison was more to provide safety for members of her household, rather than as punishment for the woman.

The chief jailers's report stated that Miss Bright was brought to the jail at 6:30 a. m., along with 15 other women. Most of the women were charged with drunkenness, he pointed out, and he did not pay particular attention to her signs of nervousness.

GOING OVER HER activities from early morning, the report noted that Miss Bright had eaten breakfast with the other prisoners. She later went off to herself and laid down, and it was noticed that small bubbles had formed around her lips.

She came down for dinner with the group. But later in the afternoon the matron was called after the prisoner's condition became worse. It was then that the matron called the physician, the report brought out.

Carwile Extends Blasts on Prison Administration

RICHMOND

Howard H. Carwile, independent senatorial candidate, continued to blast Rice M. Youell, director of the State Division of Correction on his weekly broadcast Sunday night over Station WXGI.

Extending his campaign against the use of prison labor on the land of a Goochland County "racketeer," Mr. Carwile also charged some Richmond dailies with defending the State Prison administration after Youell had published a denial and "cover-up" assurance of the existence of the "lumber project" on the county farm.

Spoke Mr. Carwile:

"The arrogant and brazen apology, which the Times-Dispatch offered in defense of the State Prison Administration, makes me sick down in the bottom of my belly. This Herculean hunk of aslimy white wash should take its place in American journalism as the apogee of asinity and personification of pusillanimity.

"The Richmond Times-Dispatch remained absolutely silent for three days after I made my charges against the State Farm concerning the use of free state labor to enrich a racketeer's estate. When this newspaper saw that I would persist in making my charges over the air until everybody in Richmond knew about our State government beautifying and enriching the estates of gamblers, then the Times-Dispatch came out with a long thesis on victorious share cropping. Near the end of the thesis on share cropping, we read the following:

"'Besides these share-cropping arrangements, the State Farm is now involved in a somewhat different lumber project on the land of a neighboring landowner. A horse racer and breeder who owns a large estate adjacent to the institution wanted about 75 acres of his land cleared of large trees.'

"If the State of Virginia is going to play the ignoble role of share cropper for gamblers and gangsters of Virginia, I cannot understand how this Commonwealth would have very much incentive for prosecuting its own landlords in the courts. I have not heard one word from the Governor concerning this corrupt and shameful use of State labor.

"The Richmond newspapers have concealed from the public the true facts of this conspiracy between our Commonwealth and the racketeers of Virginia. The Richmond AFRO-American, a colored weekly, is the only newspaper in this city which had the courage to print the facts about this horrifying scandal.

"When I spoke over a local radio station last Wednesday night, attacking this abominable practice of our State's using State labor to enrich and glorify a Goochland County racketeer, I received two telephone calls making a direct threat on my life. I informed the Richmond newspapers of these cowardly threats, and they dared not inform the public.

"These same newspapers which concealed from the public the threats of gangsters on the lives of our citizens, have the gall to dish out to us each day some self-righteous gibberish about the so-called mystery letter.

Broken-Down Aristocracy

"The Richmond Citizens Association finally came out with a rotten and putrid denunciation of the mystery letter. The Richmond Citizens Association represents the old broken-down aristocracy of Richmond.

"The greatest mystery I know is the fact that the Richmond Citizens Association can still dupe some people into believing that it is the most important civic body in this city. If the Richmond Citizens Association desires to demonstrate effectively its sincerity in rendering public service, I challenge this body of blue-blooded aristocrats to help me abolish this outrageous practice of using free State labor on the private estates of gamblers and numbers racketeers."